Circulation Last Week, 100,000.

SAMPLE COPIES Sent Free to any address.

TOLEDO WEEKLY BLADE

"PLEA FOR Service Pensions."

FIFTH PAGE.

VOLUME LVIII. TOLEDO, OHIO: THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 1890. NUMBER 18.

Poetry.

THE CHILD MUSICIAN.

He had played for his lordship's levee,
He had played for her ladyship's whim,
Till the poor little head was weary,
And the poor little brain would swim.

And the face grew peaked and eerie,
And the large eyes strange and bright,
And they said—too late—"He is weary,
He shall rest for at least to-night!"

But at dawn when the birds were waking,
As they watched in the silent room,
With the sound of a strained cord breaking,
A something snapped in the gloom.

'Twas a string of his violincello,
And they heard him stir in his bed;
"Make room for a tired fellow,
King God," was the last he said.
—Richard Henry Stoddard, in the Mail and Express.

A PARABLE OF THE SOUL.

Hear ye this parable. A man
Did plant a garden. Vine and tree
Alike, in course of time, began
To put forth fair and pleasantly.
The rains of heaven, the persuading sun
Came down alike on each and every one.

Yet some trees willful grew. And some
Strong vines grew gaily in the sun
With gaudy leaves that ever came
To naught. And yet each flaunting one
Did flourish on triumphantly and glow
Like sunset clouds in all their moving show.
But lo! the morning found them not!
The soul had perished from them. Seed
And shell and leaf were left to rot,
To furnish nourishment, indeed,
To patient tree and lowly creeping vine
That grew as grew the Husbandman's design

Hear, then, this lesson: Hear and heed,
I say that chaff shall perish; say
Man's soul is like unto a seed
To grow against the judgment day.
It grows and grows, if he will have it grow;
It perishes, if he must have it so.
—Joaquin Miller.

OUR TWO OPINIONS.

Us two wuz boys when we fell out,
Nigh to the age uv my youngest now;
Don't rec'lect what 'twuz about,
Some small diff'rence, I'll allow,
Lived next neighbors twenty years,
A-hatin' each other, me and Jim;
He havin' his opinyin uv me,
'Nd I havin' my opinyin uv him.

Grew up together 'nd wouldn't speak,
Courted sisters, 'nd married 'em, too;
Tended same ol' etin'-house once a week,
A-hatin' each other, through and through!
But wh. n Abe Linkern asked the West
F'r soldiers, we answered, me and Jim,
He havin' his opinyin uv me,
'Nd I havin' my opinyin uv him.

But down in Tennessee one night
Ther wuz sounds uv firin' on away,
'Nd the sergeant asked me 'nd Jim 'f we'd like a fi ht
With the Johnnie Rebs some time nex' day;
'Nd as I was thinkin' uv Lizzie an' home,
Jim stood afore me, long 'nd slim;
He havin' his opinyin uv me,
'Nd I havin' my opinyin uv him!

Seemed that we knew there wuz goin' to be
Serious trouble f'r me and him;
Uz two slunck heads, old Pat 'nd Mike,
But never a word from me or Jim!
He went his way, 'nd I went mine,
'Nd into the battle rear went we,
I havin my opinyin uv Jim,
'Nd he havin' his opinyin uv me!

Jim never come back from the war again,
But I hain't forgot that last, last night,
When waitin' f'r orders us two men
Made up 'nd shook hands before the fight;
'Nd after all, it's soothin' to know
That here I be, 'nd yonder a Jim;
He havin' his opinyin uv me,
'Nd I havin' my opinyin uv him!
—James Whitcomb Riley.

Our Story Teller.

HUNTING A HUSBAND.

It is all very well to say let bygones be bygones, but I defy any woman who suffered in the trouble times of a quarter of a century since to visit Libby prison and inspect its diversified contents without being stirred again to the wrath, the pain, the pity, which wrung her heart so long ago, when the hand of full often lay so heavily upon the land that every home-stead had its mourners, and few roofs were unmarked by the seal of Azrael, the angel of death. For me, it seemed as though my hap were of all the most pitiable; for I was neither maid nor wife nor widow. A single line in a dispatch had wrecked my life:

Capt. Robert Calder, —th Ill., missing!

Would to God he had been dead or wounded! That his fate were known! The wounded man's peril may be mercifully modified, the dead man's corpse be laid in mother earth with due reverence and love; but missing—was my husband a fugitive and outcast, dying a confederate scouts in the depths of the woods of Tennessee cut off from his comrades; or, worse still, was he in bonds and held by the enemy?

Oh, how I prayed that night and chided myself for lack of faith, though hope was well-nigh dead! Next morning, with the first gleam of light, and the first hoarse cry of "paper," I rushed like a crazy thing to buy a copy, and fell insensible on the floor as there danced mazily before my tear-dimmed eyes a special correspondent's telegram that my husband's company had been literally cut to pieces and all not killed taken prisoners.

"Why did you not let me die?" I asked a gentle, white-haired old man, who was holding my hands when I awoke to consciousness in the beams of the noonday sun.

"Daughter, be patient. Strive to say, 'Oh, Lord, Thy will be done—not mine,' and cheer your soul with the precious promise: 'Rest in the Lord, rest patiently in Him, and He shall grant thee thy heart's desire.' Your husband may not be dead——"

"Then, I will find him," said I, rising.

"Nay, nay, thou canst not," said the venerable man. "He thee down again else thou wilt fall sick and have no strength to pursue your search."

"But I have plenty. I cannot afford to be sick. My tears are over, and I must set to work to find my husband."

"Nay, thou mayst not for awhile," he said, and then I saw my surroundings were not those of my home. Where I was I knew not; but, like a child, content to know I was in comfort, and weakened by exhaustion, I fell back upon the pillows, till I sobbed myself to sleep.

Kind faces shone around me in my dreams, and I suspect that I must have been kept under the influence of opiates; for when I woke, saying a slight headache, there was no lassitude or trace of my fever.

"Where am I?" I asked, and to my amazement learned that I was in Cairo, two hundred miles from my home, having, under the influence of emotion, journeyed in a mechanical, trance-wise fashion toward my husband.

Then came bitter moments, for permits were required. To get to Memphis I was told was impossible. To get there was to be near Robert. Here Providence came to my aid. Three good sisters of charity were to go down upon the steamer that evening—a fourth would surely pass unheeded—and so when the Abraham Lincoln shot out from the wharf into the muddy stream I was speeding upon her to my destination and destiny.

"Well," said Col. Littler, when the morning came and there was a roll-call of all on board, "Mrs. Calder, as you have come on deer in the character of nurse, please keep it up. In doing your work you will forget your griefs, and in time may, perhaps, find your husband."

Gliding betwixt black lowering bluffs under the glistening stars there came to us a panting little steam-launch, sputtering and fuming, as is the custom of such crafts, with all the fuss and feather of a newly-made brigadier general. It bore a request for nurses, and I, being unattached, was promptly transferred to enter upon my first shore duty, to which I proceeded through two feet of slimy mud for what seemed an interminable length of time, finally reaching the town hall, which, as is customary in Mississippi state, stood in the center of the public square, and with the churches, had been utilized for hospital purposes. But, oh, the sufferers! To wash their grimy faces and brush their tangled hair was a distressing task; but it had to be performed, and at last was ended, often the grateful, relieved soldier falling asleep under the operation, from exhaustion. There was food, but they could not eat it, and turned from it with loathing. Moldy black tea, sweetened with coarse brown sugar; bacon, which was a living mass of maggots; brown bread burned to a black cinder by way of toast. In the kitchen salt fish was piled on the sugar barrel, the brine dripping through. The sick men were starving to death, yet they were among their friends and not in infamous Libby. The cook monopolized all delicacies intended for the sick. The physician, when I expostulated with him, simply said: "I cannot be here when meals are served. I leave orders for the diet of the patients, and it's the duty of the steward to see that they get it."

But as to inspecting the provisions himself before they were cooked, or after, that had not entered into his calculations. He was not an unkind man, nor exactly a careless man, but he was overtasked.

Now, the convalescents were detailed as nurses of the sick, and they themselves, weak and spiritless, paid less attention to their charges than to their own drowsiness and yearnings. By and by, though, we got a sergeant-in-charge, who saw the floors washed regularly and the windows opened when the sun shone to let in the fresh air, whose inhalation would brighten eyes and bring smiles to pallid lips. It was in the duty of each day I lost my trouble. I don't know how to say it, but it seemed to me that everything I did was just right. Father William says that I was consecrated for the work, but I'm not one of those sisters of mercy—though lovable creatures they are, many of them—but a plain Christian woman striving to do her duty.

By and by there came help from Illinois; pillows and mattresses, sheets and comforters, and enough to make us comfortable. Oh, dear me! There sat in a reaction. Some of the weakest would only be fed by me. I must mix the tea, and toast the bread, and raise it to their lips, and as I did so sometimes the fluttering heart ceased to throb within my arms. Oh, Robert! Could I only nurse you!

Did I sleep? I did after a fashion; but not dreamlessly, for the eyes of my poor patients seemed to follow me as I moved from bed to bed, and the scent of ungluent, lime and ether could not be shaken off, do what I could. What I did was a formally canonized sang, with a halo as well defined as those in Russian Ekonas Thases, they could scarcely have been more reverent. Nevertheless, it was wearing to take them home with me. In one of the books of Thomas Hood's is a sketch called "A Dream," in which some 50 weird Medusan faces are entangled in a labyrinth of features. Such were my dreams. The dread of possible omission or duty mingled in the hours of sleep with the memory of the clammy hands of those who but the previous evening had throbbed their last heart-beat of ambitions aspiration and entered upon the mysteries of the unknown world. And some of these were terrible. When the pain of uncared-for wounds overcame thirst and hunger, and found vent in profanity, it was something terrible.

"A drink of water, for Christ's sake," cried one sufferer, "and then I'll go straight to ——"

A kindly remonstrance followed.

"My soul's not yours. It belongs to me, and don't you bother about it," was the reply.

So the time wore away from days to weeks, and still I found no opportunity to go further south; but one morning, after a sound sleep, I awoke unusually refreshed—almost elated. A number of new cases had been brought in, and I made my rounds about the aisles of cots in due order. At last I reached one sunk in exhaustion and bandaged in such fashion that neither coat or vest could be retained in place. The instant of my heart told me at once it was my husband whom I had found at last, shattered and wrecked, but still alive.

Need I tell any woman how my eyes gushed with glad tears as his opened under my embrace, and a weak, faint smile of suffering stole athwart his lips, or how I nursed him back to life and saved his arm from amputation after the doctors had resolved to operate. The story of his wounds, his perils and escape is too long to tell here, and it is too bitter a reminiscence for me to narrate how he would again join his company in the next campaign. It is but one of a thousand widows' experiences, but my son and I find volumes for thought when we visit Oakwoods cemetery on memorial day, in the very few words:

HERE RESTS
ROBERT CALDER,
Captain, —th Ill. Infantry,
Killed at Winchester, July 24, 1864.

A New Check Upon Checks.

"There, I've got it down fine at last, and no mistake," and one of Philadelphia's best-known business men laid his pen down with a sigh of relief, and hastily blotted his name on a check with a blotter.

"Got what down?" asked a visitor.

"A new wrinkle adopted by merchants and others to prevent their names from being forged to checks. It's this way, and after signing my name I turn the pen up and draw a long line through it from right to left, and it looks as if the name had been cancelled. The peculiar little twirl at the end where the long line of the pen commences is where the forger of a man's name gets left. He doesn't tumble to it, so to speak, but the cashiers of the banks where I do business do, and they know instantly whether the signature is genuine or not. You see, also, this line drawn through the name makes the check look as if it was no good in case it was lost, and the finder will not present it for collection. It's a great idea and is being adopted by many business men of the city. Of course, we have to explain it to the bank people, who, once they know it, have no further trouble with us over it. But the de'il o't is the practicing to get it down fine, and it takes some little work to do so," and he gazed proudly at the unsightly line drawn through his name at the bottom of a check for $7,000.—[Philadelphia Inquirer.

Poems Versus Peanuts.

My love brings poems Thursday nights
And prunes it every Monday;
He writes from early morn till eve,
Except, of course, on Sunday.

He sings of sweetness long drawn out,
Of hope cut through the middle,
And once he tried to weave in rhyme
The hoary Sphinx's riddle.

He's very gay, then taciturn,
And seemingly sardonic
When poetizing Plato's school—
(That's where we get "platonic").

For themes he scours the country through
From Tasco's bay to Fundy's,
But really, if the truth were told,
I'd rather see him Mondays.
—DeWitt C. Lockwood in the April Century.

Alarming State of Affairs.

"My friends," said Rev. Lotus Hittumup, "the extent to which gambling is carried on in our town is alarming! From my study I can look in a club-room across the street, and last night I saw a sight that made my blood run cold. There at a table sat four young men playing poker—for money! Yes, for money! I do not wonder that you shudder, brethren! Large stacks of money were before them, and would you believe it, I actually saw one young man who ought to have known better bet ten blue chips on a pair of kings!"—[Lawrence American.

Coming Events Not Bothersome.

Prof. Zweibeer, of the university of Bonn, is a very absent-minded man. He was busily engaged in solving some scientific problem. The servant hastily opened the door of his study and announced a great family event.

"A little stranger has arrived."

"Eh?"

"It is a little boy."

"Little boy. Well, just ask him what he wants."—[Humoristische Blatter.

Lord's Prayer on His Arm.

"We find strange mementoes on some of our bodies," said an undertaker of Detroit. "The other day we were preparing the body of an unknown for burial. He had met a violent death, but there was the most serene expression on his face that I ever saw on any one. When we dressed him for the grave we found the Lord's prayer beautifully written in India ink on his forearm. It was as fine a piece of tattooing as I ever saw, and it set me to thinking that perhaps that was what he depended on for comfort and that gave the peaceful look to his face."—[Montreal Star.

HUNTING FOR A SNORE.

What a Mamma Wished to Find Out About Her Future Son-in-Law.

"Do you know, my dear Annie," said a Washington matron to her favorite confidante the other day, according to the *Star*, "that I had a most distressing time in trying to find out a certain thing about my newly made son-in-law—that dear boy, Adolphus—while his engagement with Julia was still pending? Of course, I felt it to be my duty as a mother to make strict inquiry as to his habits, and in every respect but one the result of my investigation was promptly most satisfactory. He was not so excessively good according to common report, as to excite apprehensions as to his private character, nor yet did he appear to have any very marked vices. A little in the way of pretty nearly everything mildly bad he seemed to have done, though not more than is naturally incidental to young bachelorhood; and so on all such points my mind was made entirely at ease. But as to this one matter, to me most important, I had the utmost trouble in learning anything, owing to the delicate nature of the question. To explain it: I will tell you that my own greatest affliction in married life was my husband's snoring. He was the most agreeable of men, and yet I doubt very much whether I should have accepted him if I had known of this weakness of his. I have had no means of knowing how much addicted men are ordinarily to the snoring habit, but it is happily my impression that his snore was a freak.

"It used positively to make the windows rattle, and when we traveled in sleeping-cars I was embarrassed. People would throw boots along the isle and use much bad language, saying that they could not sleep. Neither could I, save for an occasional cat-nap, until I insisted upon my right to a separate apartment. Perhaps the worst of it was that my husband always insisted that he never snored at all, and told me that it must be my imagination. The sufferings I went through from that cause were so serious that I made up my mind that my daughter should never marry a man who snored. And accordingly, when Adolphus came a-courting, with evident serious intention, I set about getting information on this important subject. If I had discovered that he drank, or pursued any other vice to excess, I might have taken chances of his reform; but the man who snores never reforms—he is a hopeless case. In France, where I lived so many years of my life, mothers always make it a matter of inquiry, where the marriages of their daughters are concerned, whether or not the proposed finance snores. If it is learned that he does so some remission of demand is expected to be made by the other side in the negotiation, such as the diminishment of the amount of the dot required with the girl. However, in this country such is not the fashion, and I had a very hard time to procure my information on the point."

"I should think so!" replied the confidante. "How on earth did you manage it?"

"Well, to begin with, I asked his mother. I said that I had suffered somewhat recently from insomnia, and inquired whether she was ever troubled in that way herself. When she said no I remarked that it was really a most aggravating complaint, and suggested that possibly some member of her family might have been afflicted by it. Again she responded with a negative. 'Why, my dear Mrs. B——,' I said, 'you are exceptionally fortunate. Usually in the household there is at least one member who suffers either from sleeplessness or nightmares. Neither your husband nor yourself does. And how is it about your dear son, Adolphus—is he not troubled with any of the difficulties incidental to sleep, such as the want of it, bad dreams, or snoring?' The question was less artfully put than I had hoped to frame it, but the mamma of my future son-in-law suspected nothing; she merely opened her eyes very wide, and replied:

"'The difficulty is to wake my son up in the morning. As a rule he has to be pounded with pillows to arouse him for late breakfast. I never heard of his being troubled with nightmares, and, as for snoring, I haven't the slightest knowledge. If he did snore, I can't suppose that it would seriously interrupt his repose.'

"This was discouraging. However, on the occasion of a second visit I was informed by an old domestic in the household, who had been a nurse of Adolphus, that Mrs. B—— was not at home. Seized with a desperate resolve I drew the old woman into a corner and said, tragically:

"'Tell me something—I have a very particular reason for wishing to know—does Mr. Adolphus snore?'

"'He never did so, ma'am,' she answered, when he was a child. Whether he does so now or not, I am sure I haven't got a notion.'

"I felt annoyed at this—particularly as I felt that I had given myself away to some extent. It was not until some days after that I hit accidentally upon the solution of my problem. I was called upon by a very agreeable young man who had been Adolphus's chum at college. Said he:

"'The only trouble between me and 'Dolph in our domestic relation was that he declared that I snored frightfully and kept him awake, though ordinarily he slept like the dead.'

"'And did he keep you awake in the same manner?' I asked, eagerly.

"'Oh, no. I was never able to retort upon him on that score; he always slept as soundly as a six-month infant.'

"And that is the way, my dear, in which I very easily learned the fact that I had been so long and anxiously pursuing. If I had not acquired the information in this curious manner it is probable that Adolphus and Julia would not have been married at noon last Tuesday."

Bought One Shoe at a Time.

"I struck the hardest game of my life to-day," said the agent of a very successful collecting firm to a San Francisco *Examiner* man. "I tackled my man for $20 that he owes a restaurant. 'I'm sorry,' says he, stopping work on his picture, 'but I can't pay this for a few months yet. I'm buying a pair of shoes on the installment plan, and the second shoe is to be delivered to-day if I can make a partial payment. The coin's here,' says he, tapping his vest pocket. 'All right,' says I, 'but you just give that coin to me, or I'll sell you up.' 'Sell what up?' says he. 'Why these here pictures,' says I, sweeping my arm in a comprehensive way around the studio. 'These pictures?' says he. 'All right, my boy. Go ahead. If you can sell them I'll be much obliged to you. It's a derned sight more than I can do.' With that he lighted up his pipe and went on painting, as tranquil as a summer's day. I admired him, and asked him out to have a drop of something. 'Excuse me,' says he, standing back and regarding his picture with one eye closed, but not even glancing at me, 'I never have any social relations with my tradespeople.' I was faint when I got down to the street."—[San Francisco Examiner.

She Knew Her Station.

"Albert," said the blushing girl, "in the ceremony of your church what is the question the minister propounds to the bridegroom?"

"He asks him this, Marie," replied the young man; "'Wilt thou take this woman' ——"

"Then, Mr. Whelks," haughtily interposed Miss Marie Kersnaggs, forelady of Spoteash & Co.'s notion and woollen yarn department, rising to her feet and pointing inflexibly to the door, "go and marry some"—and here her scorn became absolutely regal—"some 'woman' of your own faith!"—[Chicago Tribune.

Not Incommoded at All.

The street car gave a sudden lurch in rounding a curve, and the charming young girl who was clinging to a strap, nearly sat down in the lap of the man with a furlined overcoat who was sitting in the corner.

"I beg your pardon, sir," she exclaimed, hastily.

"Not at all, miss," he replied, encouragingly. "Try it again."—[Chicago Tribune.

Took the Wrong Ship.

Old Friend (greeting Mrs. Lakeside, of Chicago, on her arrival in Europe)—"Are you not glad to set foot on *terra firma*?"

Mrs. Lakeside—"*Terra firma!* Land sakes! I thought this was Queenstown."—[New York Weekly.

THE BARBER'S TERROR.

How a Glass Eye Caused Consternation in a Shaving Shop.

"Never stare at a man while he is shaving you," remarked the barber as he mixed his lather. "If you do the chances are ten to one he will remove a slice of your damask cheek or downy chin. It makes a barber fearfully nervous," he continued, as he lathered the customer, "to have a man glare up into his face, and when he grows nervous it is impossible to keep the hand from shaking. A man with a glass eye is a bad customer. I remember an experience I once had with one of these artificial optics. I have about as strong a set of nerves as any man and it requires a good deal to shake them. While operating on a gentleman one day I noticed that one of his eyes seemed to follow me about, keeping me in sight, no matter on which side of him I stood. Finally I concluded there was a cast in it, for it seemed to twist around entirely independent of its mate. I didn't mind it at first, but after a while it began to fascinate me. I could not keep my own eyes off it. Suddenly the gentleman gave a short exclamation as my razor clipped off a piece of his chin. I apologized, and tried to pay close heed to the shaving. But impossible. That eye, with its cold, stony, stare watching me so closely, drew my own eyes back to it again and again. My hand began to shake. The gentleman muttered an angry oath. This time I had clipped him again. Again I apologized and again I clipped him. My whole arm began to tremble. I could hardly draw my razor across his cheek. The eye still kept its glance upon my face. I was afraid I would cut the man badly, and finally asked him to please not stare so at me, as it made me nervous.

"'I'm not looking at you,' he replied. 'Go on with the shave.'

"I had the shave half finished by this time, and, pulling my nerves together by a strong effort, endeavored to finish the job. But that villainous eye seemed to grow more and more watchful. I felt as if it suspected me of some crime and was posing as the all-seeing eye. A cold perspiration broke out upon my face and neck and my customer's life was in danger of being ended.

"'You'll have to stop staring at me,' I said, 'if you expect me to shave you decently.'

"'Why, blank it,' he answered angrily, 'I'm not looking at you.'

"'But, my dear sir, you have kept one eye steadily upon me ever since I commenced to shave you.'

"'You're mistaken; haven't looked at you since I sat down.'

"'Why, that left eye of yours has—'

"'Oh! the left eye. That's a glass eye.'

"Of course I felt rather bored at this, but still as I got to work and to pierce through my manly bosom and make a survey of my inner conscience it was just as hard as ever to shave him, and I finally asked him to close his eyelids. This he did, and I had no difficulty in finishing the job. I have several times had to ask customers to close their eyes, if they presisted in staring at me."—[Washington Sunday Herald.

ROYALTY AND ECONOMY.

Amusing Encounter of a Writer with the Old King of Prussia.

Of Mme. Olympe Audouard, the French writer who recently died in Paris, they tell an interesting story, says a London letter to the Chicago *News*. One summer she went to Baden-Baden and ensconced herself in a pretty villa. Returning from a drive one day, she handed the cabman what she deemed a reasonable fare, but that person seemed to object, and a comical parley was precipitated, madame knowing no German and cabby knowing no French. In the midst of it all a tall, erect, white-haired gentleman came from the villa across the way, and said in French:

"Madame, perhaps I can be of service to you. How much do you wish to give this man for his fourboire?"

"I am willing to give him two francs," said madame.

"No, that is too much; one ought not to be extravagant," said the old gentlemen.

"What, are you miserly, and that, too, with other people's money?" cried the little Frenchwoman.

"Miserly, no; but careful. People thank me for being careful."

Well, the old gentleman finally paid the cabman the exact amount due, and a few pence (pfennig-) for drink money, and so the matter ended. That evening, however, Mme. Audouard attended a grand concert in the town, and she was presented to the King of Prussia, whom she recognized as the handsome old gentleman who had come to her rescue in the afternoon.

"Do you really think, madame," said the king, slyly, "that I am quite right to be economical, since it is the money of my subjects that I spend?"

Women Always Return Umbrellas.

"Did you ever know a woman to fail to return a borrowed umbrella?" asked a dealer in these articles, addressing a reporter.

"I can't say I ever did."

"Nobody else ever did," said the dealer, emphatically. "I have been a long time in the business of selling them, and I have made a special study of women in connection with the borrowed umbrella phase of social ethics, and I have yet to learn of a case in which she has abused the confidence reposed in her when she was lent an umbrella to protect herself in a sudden shower. She either returns it in person, or sends it with verbal or a pretty note of thanks at the first opportunity. When a man comes in here to buy an umbrella and I get chatting with him, I ask the question:

"'Did you ever lend a woman an umbrella?'

"'Yes.'

"'Did she ever return it?'

"'Yes.'

"Then I go to a book I keep for this purpose and I make an entry in this form: 'Interrogated another to-day (entering the date) Answer: 'Lent and returned promptly.' Here is the book."

And the dealer showed to the reporter a book with many pages of entries in the form given, covering a number of years.

"No, sir," repeated the dealer, with strong emphasis, as the reporter took his leave, "a woman never fails to return an umbrella."—[Pittsburg Dispatch.

Some Bismarck Sayings.

A French writer has made a collection of the sayings attributed to Bismarck, and some of them are queer enough:

"A Bavarian is something between an *Austrichen* and a man."

"If Austria has astonished the world by her ingratitude, England will astonish it by her cowardice."

"God made man after his own image, and Italians after that of Juans."

"The powers are generally represented by men of mark, but France is sometimes represented by marked men, queer fellows, who are really envoys extraordinary."

"I am ready to recognize the ambassador of France, because he never speaks the language of the country to which he is sent."

"Thiers a diplomatist! Pshaw, he wouldn't know how to sell a horse."

The quantity of these sayings is considerable, and their quality lively, and their real origin more or less doubtful.—[N. Y. Sun.

She's Still Single.

"What is that figure on the dome?" inquired a female visitor of a capitol guide yesterday.

"Liberty, ma'am," he replied, with a tremulous, 50-cents-an-hour politeness.

"Liberty?" she repeated, with questioning scorn. "And it's a woman."

"Yes'm," he responded, humbly; but she ain't married ma'am. Leastways her husband ain't never around."—[Washington Star.

Still Hoping.

Miss Hevvyrox—No, John, I cannot listen to your love. Farewell forever!

John—Might I ask one question?

"Yes."

"Is this a Simon-pure farewell or one of the Patti brandy?"—[Harper's Bazar.

Tempting Providence.

Grocer—Don't put those fresh laid eggs so near the stove.

Clerk—What's the matter, sir?

Grocer—They might hatch.—[Judge.

Our Serial Story.

Copyright 1889, by the Toledo Blade Co. All rights reserved.

HIS ADVENTURES, TEMPTATIONS AND TRIUMPHS.

A TEMPERANCE STORY.

BY

Thomas W. Knox

AUTHOR OF "OVERLAND THROUGH ASIA," "THE YOUNG NIMRODS," "THE BOY TRAVELERS" (IN TEN VOLUMES), "CAMP-FIRE AND COTTON FIELD," "UNDER GROUND" "DECISIVE BATTLES SINCE WATERLOO," "JOHN," "HOW TO TRAVEL," "MARCO POLO FOR BOYS AND GIRLS," ETC.

CHAPTER XLI.

ALCOHOLIC DRINKS IN HOT AND COLD COUNTRIES.

LET me give you a piece of advice if you ever go wolf-hunting," said Mr. Komaroff.

"Well, what is it?" queried one of his auditors.

"Don't touch a drop of anything intoxicating before starting or while you are out among the wolves. You want the possession of all your faculties and the least quantity of alcohol in your system may cost you your life.

"I've known men to start out on a hunting expedition after dining heavily and taking a good many drinks—and they never came back to tell the story of their adventures. Hunters, horses and driver were eaten up by the wolves. Their bones were found where the sledge had upset and how it happened nobody ever knew. If our driver had been intoxicated, even to a very small degree, it is probable that I wouldn't be here now to tell the story."

"The same rule will hold good in any kind of hunting where large and dangerous game is being pursued," one of the listeners remarked.

"Yes," responded Mr. Komaroff, "and there's something more I will say on the subject of drink. You know that the Russians are famous for being pretty hard drinkers; I am Russian, and as you say in America, 'have been there myself.'

"Now what I want to impress on you is this: All over the world, excepting in Russia, there's an impression that spirits are necessary to help a man to resist cold. Even a good many Russians have that impression, too, but they are not, as a general thing, men of any experience.

"I have traveled a good deal in Siberia," Mr. Komaroff continued, "and I am by no means a teetotaller. When with my friends in towns and cities I can keep my end up with the best of them, but when I start out for a long ride in the winter I avoid spirits as I would avoid poison. I drink tea altogether while on the road; we travel night and day till our journey is ended, and two or three time a day, perhaps oftener, we solace ourselves with hot tea. We rarely take any other drink except now and then we may put a teaspoonful of brandy in a glass of tea. You may understand how little we use spirits when I tell you that a friend and myself, both of us free drinkers when at home, once traveled two thousand miles, from the capital of Eastern Siberia to the Ural mountains, and were sixteen days on the way. In all that time and distance we used less than one bottle of brandy for the two of us—a teaspoonful now and then in our tea, and that was all. And I really believe we would have been better off without a drop of it. If you ever travel in Siberia you will find that the Russians, no matter how heavy drinkers they may be at home, will let drink alone when on the road in winter."

"The French have a proverb, *Les extremes se touchent*," said Mr. Ward, an Englishman who had been an attentive listener. "Translated it means 'extremes meet,' and what you have just said brings it to my mind. "I've never been in the Far North," he continued, "but I know a good deal about tropical countries, having spent the last ten years in them. There the use of alcohol is a very dangerous recreation, and thousands of Europeans have gone to their graves in Africa, India and other hot countries on account of their indulgence in liquor. They are often very reckless about it, and so well is the baneful effect of alcohol understood that in India the common name for a drink of brandy and soda is 'a peg,' which means a peg in one's coffin. When an Englishman in Calcutta, Bombay, or other Indian city or town, wants a glass of this tipple you hear him say, 'Boys, bring me a peg,' and quite likely he drinks it with the full knowledge that it is bearing him along to the cemetery.

"The climate of India has a bad reputation for health," Mr. Ward went on to say, "but it is very unjustly slandered. If the Europeans who go there would conform to the habits of the natives and let spirits alone there would be much less illness among them and far fewer deaths. Some stations are more unhealthy than others, and it sometimes seems as though the Europeans were determined to kill themselves off in these unhealthy places, as they drink more freely there than elsewhere. Some of them think they can thereby stave off the effects of the climate while others appear determined to live a short life and a merry one.

"Some years ago I was in the island of Tobago in the British West Indies; its principal products are sugar, molasses and rum, and it is supposed to have given us the tobacco plant or at all events the word by which we know the narcotic weed. Tobago is an unhealthy place for Europeans and they told me that the average annual mortality among them was one in three! I didn't wonder at it when I saw how heavily they drank; it was the custom for a man to have a glass of sangaree (wine and water) before getting up in the morning, a drink or two before breakfast, and a steady string of drinks during the day until they reached plain brandy without water before going to bed. After a drinking bout in which nearly every one of a party of ten or twelve would be heavily intoxicated it was no unusual thing for the survivors to be summoned a day or two later to the funeral of one of the number. Funerals in those hot countries generally take place within a few hours after a death; I once dined with a party where one of the number was so much under the influence of liquor that he was carried home by his servants. At noon the next day I was summoned to attend to his funeral at 4 in the afternoon, and with the funeral notice came an invitation to dine with the same party at 7. I attended both affairs; the incident made a deep impression upon me, but the residents treated it as a common occurrence."

"Since then," continued Mr. Ward, "I have given close attention to this subject, and consulted many medical and other men who have lived in the tropics. The universal testimony of unprejudiced and thoughtful men is that alcoholic liquors are specially injurious in hot climates, and the European who will follow the example of the natives of those countries and abstain from them has a better chance of a long life a hundred times over, than the habitual drinker, even though his drinking is 'moderate.' Colonel Sykes, who lived a long time in India says he believes that much of the disease of European in India is traceable to over-stimulus and that the mortality among the European troops will not be reduced until the European soldier is improved in his habits and made to understand that temperance is for the benefit of his body, libraries for the benefit of his mind, exercise for that of his health, and savings banks for that of his purse. Dr. Daniell, an eminent surgeon in the British service, says that the notorious insalubrity of Africa is made the scape-goat on which the blame of the results of dissipation is thrown without the risk of being disputed or questioned. The same writer in describing the Bight of Benin, which is reputed to be one of the most unhealthy places on the face of the globe, says, 'he has known Europeans to remain there for years in good health, simply abstaining from ardent spirits, and being car eful of their diet and habits in general.'"

We may add to the remarks of Mr. Ward on the subject of temperance in the tropics that all the African explorers of eminence have been abstainers from ardent spirits, wine, beer, and all other intoxicants. Barth, Livingston, Stanley and others may be cited as proofs of this assertion; we might also quote the names of some whose deaths, or failure in their enterprises, were due to drink were it not from an unwillingness to place a stain upon their memory.

In his famous book, "Through the Dark Continent" Stanley gives a graphic account of the work of rum in Africa, and contrasts the condition of the people in the interior whom the traders had not reached with the deadly and demoralizing stuff, compared with that of the coast tribes where it abounded. In the former were contentment and prosperity while in the latter the reverse were reversed. Wherever the white man goes with the rum bottle, he carries demoralization and death to the aboriginal; whether in Africa or America, Asia or the isles of the Pacific, it is the same melancholy story.

The missionary seeking to spread the gospel among the heathen, is usually the pioneer; he ventures where no other man will go, and when he has made the way safe the trader follows. The work of the missionary is soon overthrown and the aboriginal falls into a condition far worse than that in which he originally lived. The next step of the trader is to drive out the missionary, by undoing civilizing work he has benefited, as he has no further need of his services. Many instances could be cited in proof of this assertion, but a single one will suffice.

Fifty years ago many islands of the South Pacific were inhabited by cannibals, and no white man could venture there except at the peril of his life, save with a powerful force of armed men at his back. There was scarcely any commerce there until the missionaries undertook to civilize and christianize the people. Many of them perished in the effort, but their places were taken by others, and in course of time their efforts were crowned with success.

The way for commerce was thus opened and the traders came to the islands. The missionaries sought to prevent the cheating of the simple-minded natives, as well as the demoralization by the introduction of spirits, but all to no purpose. The traders were too powerful for them and in many instances incited the natives to expel their true friends and retain the pretended ones. The largest trading concern in the South Pacific, the Godeffroy company, of Hamburg, with its headquarters in the Samoan islands and agencies in all the groups, profited enormously by the work of the missionaries but instead of acknowledging their indebtedness by treating these good men with consideration it issued the following instructions to its agents:

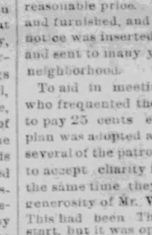
"Never assist missionaries either by word or deed, but, wheresoever you may find them, use your best influence with the natives to obstruct and exclude them."

This German trading company is not by any means the only one that has issued similar orders to its agents, or if not putting itself on record has shown that it possessed the inclination to do so. The reason is plain; missionaries are opposed to the demoralization caused by rum, rum is the chief article of commerce in new countries and the one from which the greatest profits may be derived, and the missionary must be expelled in order that commerce may be unrestricted. The same argument is made by people in civilized lands in favor of the traffic in intoxicating liquors; vested interests must not be disturbed, manufacturing industries must be allowed to thrive, and the men engaged in making drunkards and filling the poor-houses, the prisons and the hospitals, have a moral right to go on with their nefarious work because they have families to support and have the same right to the fruits of their labor as any other citizens!

The steamer on which Dick Graham was a passenger dropped anchor in front of Constantinople and he made ready to go on shore. He was absorbed in the contemplation of the wonderful picture presented by Constantinople when viewed from the water, certainly one of the grandest sights of the far-famed Orient, when he was suddenly aroused from his reverie by feeling a hand upon his shoulder and hearing himself called by name.

CHAPTER XLII.

THOMSON'S NEW ENTERPRISE.



WE will leave the traveler to enjoy the sights of Constantinople while we return, on the wings of imagination and not by steamship and railway, to New York.

To relieve his loneliness at the loss of the company of Dick Graham, Thomson went to work in earnest upon his scheme for counteracting the effect of the saloon by establishing unobjectionable resorts for young men, where they could enjoy themselves and pass the time pleasantly without the temptation of drink.

He conferred with Mr. Varney on the subject, and for the purpose of this conference he was invited to dine at that gentleman's house, as we have already seen. Miss Alice was present at the dinner, and this circumstance added considerably to the attraction of the table, and gave a decided impetus to his proposed enterprise.

Thomson drew up his plans and estimates and submitted them to Mr. Varney. They included the hire of a floor in a central location and the purchase of plain but substantial furniture, a counter, where coffee, tea, soda water, cakes, and other light refreshments would be sold, a reading room where the daily and a few weekly papers were to be kept on file, and also the leading magazines of the day, and a smoking room, where those who did not wish to read, could lounge and talk as much as they choose. Smoking was to be permitted only in that room, and all conversation, other than in a whisper or in low tones, was to be forbidden in the reading room. Profane or other improper language was to be prohibited in all the rooms, and the doors were to be closed and the lights turned out at 11 p. m.

Mr. Varney approved the scheme and offered to become responsible for the rent and other expenses for the first year. He spoke to some of his mercantile friends, whose views on the use of intoxicating liquors and their baneful effects accorded with his own, and they readily agreed to join him in the financial responsibilities of the undertaking. Thomson was authorized to proceed with the enterprise, and in a few days he reported that he had found suitable rooms, which could be had at a reasonable price. The rooms were taken and furnished, and when all was ready a notice was inserted in the daily papers, and sent to many young men living in the neighborhood.

To aid in meeting the expenses, those who frequented the place were required to pay 25 cents each per month. This plan was adopted after consultation with several of the patrons who were disinclined to accept charity in any form, while at the same time they fully appreciated the generosity of Mr. Varney and his friends. This had been Thomson's idea from the start, that it was opposed at first by Mr. Varney, through fear that the fact of an admission fee being required would tend to keep young men from seeking the advantages offered by the coffee-room. It was agreed that the matter should be left to those who came there during the first month, and their vote was practically unanimous in favor of the monthly admission fee as above stated.

VON SCHROEDER'S RANCH.

Lavish Expenditures of the Live Baron Who Married a California Heiress.

Not many years have flitted by since San Francisco society was all agog with the announcement that Baron Von Schroeder was engaged to the eldest daughter of the late millionaire, Peter Donahue. Their marriage was considered a wedding of money to title. But the baron astonished fashionable people by establishing his place of residence in the West instead of shipping his prize to Europe. Very few are cognizant of the fact that the baron has rendered himself a benefactor to the country in a most commendable way.

Far down in the wilderness of San Luis Obispo county, a doz n years ago, a stock raiser named Benton was gradually growing tired of an unlucrative business on government land. His claim was hilly and mountainous and rocky, and the vegetation consisted of forests of trees and no end to poison oak brush. The place was picturesque; but a poor man's family couldn't be maintained on mere contemplation of the beautiful or grand. The ranch is eighteen miles northwest of San Luis, and some five miles distant from Pat Murphy's celebrated Santa Margarita ranch. The Baron visited the land on a hunting trip. The "Eagle ranch," as it was called, pleased him, and he straightway made overtures for its purchase. Subsequently, on assuming possession, he employed Mr. Benton as h s superintendent, and began a system of improvements. Ranchers set him down as a fool for throwing his money away; they have been green with envy ever since. The Baron had a mansion constructed on a commanding promontory, and proceeded to adapt the ranch to the purposes of a country seat. Four years ago, after roads had been built through the land at great expense, he decided to bring his family down for the summer. He considered the dangers of poison oak, and one day Benton received the order: "Cut that poison oak from the hills." Benton was as much astonished at the order as if the Baron had commanded him to move a hill; but a week had not passed before a hundred men were at work on a contract to rid the hills of the obnoxious shrub. In a month the ranch resembled a newly planted garden.

The family came down and enjoyed a season of healthful freedom; there was hunting for the Baron and his friends in the hills, and excellent fishing in the Atascadero creek on counes through the ranch, and at one place falls a hundred feet over great rocks, and is a reduced picture of Yosemite's Bridal Veil. But there was something lacking in the matter of shade in the near proximity to the residence, and as the thermometer frequently registers 110 degrees in that country in the summer months, the baron decided to have a grove of shade trees to fill up the deficiency, and add to the comfort of his children.

"Lay out a grove in the space at the rear of the house," ordered the baron. "I want shade for the children when I return here two years hence."

"Two years!" exclaimed Benton, astounded. "Way, it will be five years before the trees can make any kind of a showing."

"Time is fleeting," said Von Schroeder; "life is brief, and we can't afford to wait. Don't plant slips, Benton, but buy the trees already grown, if need be."

"But the cost?"

"See that the grove is here—never mind the details," was the baron's concluding request. In two years a grove of trees, ranging in height from fifteen to twenty feet, shaded the area at the rear of the mansion, and walks and rustic chairs, and everything else that might conduce to the pleasure contemplated, was there. The trees were shipped there at great expense, but never a word was heard concerning the outlay.

Two hundred and fifty yards from the mansion, just back of the grove, was a hill of solid rock. A man of moderate means might have regretted its being there, for it was not an ornament, and could be of no earthly use to him. To the baron the presence of this hill was a source of delight.

"Just the thing," might be his expression; "I understand that the heat is sometimes oppressive here in summer. This hill must be hollowed out, and we will have a grotto, where we may sit in comfort when the sun is raging."

To his superintendent he gave orders to have a grotto hlasted out of that hill. The work was begun without delay, and hundreds of tons of rock were conveyed away to be built into a wall to border the winding road leading to the mansion on the promontory. Stone walks were built wherever the requirement seemed to arise, and when the grotto was completed every ounce of rock had been devoted to a useful purpose. To ornament the interior of the grotto, it was decided that with the surrounding gray stone was the next thing. The Baron sent East to connoisseurs and had rare plants and pottery of appropriate designs sent on and placed in the summer house in the hill. The baroness is a woman of taste. Neither the plants nor the pottery harmonized with the rocky walls, and they were shipped back again. Now, dull gray pottery and artificial plants placed here and there have a beautiful effect, and a brilliant lamp hangs from the center of the wall above, and on July evenings sends its rays down on a scene of royal splendor, for here the baron and his guests sit and sip the sparkling wine, and tell old tales and sing old songs and enjoy life generally.

And to day people from many miles around visit the "Eagle Ranch" and view with wonder the baron's system of waterworks, which is on a scale worthy of a small city—reservoirs in the mountains, and water distributed to every portion of the ranch through iron pipes—and drive through the tree-lined ways to an orchard laid out on rolling hills, containing 10,000 French prune trees—the largest prune orchard in the world. These trees, which are now in bearing, will yield an average profit of $6 or $7, and from this source the baron expects his remuneration.

The Eagle ranch is a hunter's paradise. Game of all description abounds. The baron is a crack sportsman, and is on record at the ranch that when he first assumed possession he gave orders to his superintendent that if ever a bear track was found he should be notified immediately by telegraph. Mr. Schroeder was then living in the city, across the bay. A telegram came one day with the news that a grizzly had been seen in the hills, and that the hoonster would not be made a target till the baron was heard from. The baron reached Templeton, then the terminus of the Southern Pacific, and was conveyed to the ranch immediately. The next morning he started out with a Mexican guide to find old brum. They had traveled far in the hills when suddenly a crashing was heard in the brush amid the trees.

"Ha! Senor, the bear!" exclaimed the Mexican. "We shall climba the tree and shoota down."

"Are you afraid?" quickly asked the baron.

"He's very mucha dangerous; you missa the bear he makes the meal," admonished the guide.

"Then climb a tree, sir," cried the baron. The Mexican was not long in obeying, and Schroeder waited for the bear. The grizzly saw his foe and hurried to embrace him. The baron stood cool and collected, warned his guide not to shoot, and sent a bullet crashing to the center of the grizzly's head. The great beast rolled over dead. That is the story; but the Mexican smiles whenever he hears it, and listens patiently to the laudation of the baron's bravery, and that nobleman's rivals are prone to observe: "The Mexican's paid to keep his mouth shut." But the skin of the grizzly ornaments the grand hallway of the Eagle ranch house, and people still praise the baron's courage.

Once while riding over the country he lost his tearings. His superintendent was along with him, and when they reached a fence they tore it down, and the same act was repeated as they struck an enclosure. They finally reached a habitation. An elderly woman kept a duck ranch there. They halted at her gate. Benton dismounted and went in.

"What do you ask for your fowls, madam?" asked Benton.

"Those geese there I'll sell you at a dollar and a half apiece," she replied.

No sooner had she completed the sentence than crack-bang! went the Baron's rifle and three or four geese had ceased to cackle. The woman was frantic, and she called the Baron "murderer" and "villian," and was going into hysterics, when Benton dropped a handful of silver into the woman's aprons and put a veto to her sobs.

The woman was overjoyed at this, and stammered out: "If you'd a told me you wanted ducks, I could have picked 'em out for you."

The baron's adventures in the wilds of San Louis Obispo county would fill a book. It is estimated that within five years' time Von Schroeder's French prune orchard will have paid him a revenue to offset all his lavish expenditures in making the Eagle ranch a family summer resort that visitors marvel at. And San Louis Obispo people honor the baron as a fellow citizen, and it is a common expression: "Miss Donahue was fortunate in her marriage—she has a lord who understands how to live, how to spend, and how to make, as well."—[Oakland (Cal.) Times.

RANDALL'S POSTMASTER.

He Got There, But He Only Lasted For Two Hours.

Once, many years ago, a curious freak of the law made Mr. David R. Atchison, of Missouri, President of the United States for one day. He was president pro tem. of the Senate, and for 24 hours between the death of Gen Zach. Taylor and the swearing in of Millard Fillmore there was no executive of the nation. Atchison never attempted to exercise any authority during that one day, but he had the authority all the same had he chosen to exercise it. I was reminded of that singular fact yesterday by meeting Frank McLaughlin, the owner of the Philadelphia *Times*, on Broadway. He is a handsome man at sixty years of age, and one of the brightest men whom I have ever known. Mr. McLaughlin was at one time postmaster of Philadelphia for two hours upon the same basis that Atchinson was President of the United States. It was during Andrew Johnson's time, when the Senate was rejecting all his appointments, that McLaughlin was named. Mr. Randall wanted a postmaster for Philadelphia who could be confirmed. He selected Frank McLaughlin as his candidate. Mr. McLaughlin then had a printing office and was making money. He positively declined the place. But it became noised about that he was to be nominated, upon public criticism set in upon him. This irritated Mr. McLaughlin, and he then determined to accept the position. He immediately took the train for Washington, found Mr. Randall, signified his willingness to accept, and on the very last night of the session Andrew Johnson appointed him. Two hours after he resigned by the Senate his name was rejected. He often said that he was glad that he was turned down, for he might have gone on holding public office had he once got a taste of it; but instead he went to making money, and to-day has his millions and as lovely a life as was ever brought to a man. How true is the old adage that 'Great results often turn upon slender hinges."—[N. Y. Star.

MAKING PLAY OF WORK.

An English Firm's Plan to Get Children to Manufacture Its Goods.

In England a company has been formed for the manufacture of toys which were formerly imported into the country at the almost incredibly large sum of $2,000,000. When it was learned that most of the work of manufacturing the toys was accomplished by little children, who enjoyed their employment so much that they preferred it to play, this company established their manufactory in the midst of a crowded district of Birmingham, and advertised to teach children the work free of cost. As soon as the people learned of this offer women and children besieged the place in such numbers that the street was literally packed with applicants, and the police had great difficulty to force their way through the throngs.

The factory, after learning how to do the work, are allowed to take it to their homes, and, surrounded by new comforts and luxuries purchased by the proceeds of their fascinating employment, amid the refining influences of home, hundreds of busy little hands are employed in delightful work. To call out the most intelligent workers in the trade the company issued a list of prizes to be competed for by the children under 12 years of age and awarded to the child who shall construct the best outfit for the company's paper doll. The largest prize is £5, the smallest £3, and other prizes are to follow presently. —[Chicago Herald.

FOR NERVOUS DEBILITY

Use Horsford's Acid Phosphate.

Dr. H T. TURNER, Kasson, Minn., says: "I have found it very beneficial in nervous debility from any cause, and for indigestion."

THE DIVIDED SKIRT.

A Lady Rescues Herself from an Unpleasant Situation.

A handsome young woman with short, curly hair, wearing a double helmet cap and a straight walking jacket, was passing down State street, Chicago, one evening recently.

Her soft blue eyes, rosy cheeks and a soft feminine something about her were the only evidence, says the *Tribune*, except her skirt, that she was a woman. One had to look twice to be sure that she wasn't a beautiful boy. Directly in front of Field's retail store she was overtaken by an accident. Her skirt fell down. Under the old dress regime the situation would have been indescribably embarrassing. It was embarrassing as it was. The young woman looked down in dismay at the limp garment around her feet.

But the moment she looked down she realized that she was perfectly clad in a dark colored divided skirt. The trousers were not much more baggy than the style at present worn by men. Her upper costume was in keeping with the lower. Quickly recovering she walked composedly, as a man might, into the store and up to the cloak department.

When she once more came down to bring up her skirt. The score of witnesses were so paralyzed with admiration that they could not have made the incident a sensation if they had wanted to.

Consumption Surely Cured.

To the Editor: Please inform your readers that I have a positive remedy for the above named disease. By its timely use thousands of hopeless cases have been permanently cured. I shall be glad to send two bottles of my remedy FREE to any of your readers who have consumption, if they will send me their Express and P. O. address. Respectfully, T. A. SLOCUM, M. C., 181 Pearl St., New York.

Interested Listeners.

An American lady who traveled alone through Europe, conversant with no language but her mother tongue, was asked on her return: "Did you really spend fourteen months in all sorts of foreign places and speak nothing but English?" "Yes," was the reply, "but I would never do it again."

A traveler in Morocco gives, in "The Land of an African Sultan," the following account of a little occurrence that took place in the Sok or principal street of Tangier, and which goes to corroborate the evident opinion of the American tourist, that it is a serious disadvantage not to be a linguist.

A well-disposed, elderly gentleman was visiting Tangier, some years ago, before the country was opened as it is now. He, of course, went to the Sok, and was overcome at the ignorance and bigotry of its inhabitants. On returning to his hotel, he engaged a guide, to whom he told his purpose of preaching a sermon there.

The guide, who knew the danger of such a proceeding, kept his own counsel, but pointed out a place which he himself should run in interpreting the discourse. He demanded a proportionately large sum of money in payment, and this the benevolently-inclined gentleman at once promised him.

Arrived at the Sok the preacher mounted an empty case and commenced his sermon, and great was his delight to see the crowd gather quickly about him as the guide interpreted his fervent sentences. Larger grew the crowd, and no one uttered a word; in breathless silence they listened to the end and then departed, followed by the old gentleman.

Not many weeks later a leading English paper published a long article on the missionary question in Morocco, and described the patience with which this crowd had listened to a sermon on the Christian religion.

But the kindly old gentleman who preached that sermon and afterward wrote the newspaper article never knew that what the interpreter really delivered to these delighted Moors was a story from the "Arabian Knights."—[Christian Union.

Suspicious.

"What did hubby do while his wifey was away?" asked the dear creature on her return.

"I played solitaire nearly every evening," he replied, sheepishly.

"Who with?" was the next query, in a tone of deep suspicion.—[New York Herald.

A MARVEL.

St. Jacobs Oil Was used in the cure of Mrs. John Gemmill of Milroy, Mifflin Co., Pa., who had suffered extremely for 19 years from a

SPRAIN

which she received to the spine. She was a cripple, unable to walk. Before the second bottle of St. Jacobs Oil was exhausted she was cured.

AT DRUGGISTS AND DEALERS.

THE CHARLES A. VOGELER CO., Baltimore, Md.

CHILDREN'S FASHION.

HOW THE LITTLE PEOPLE FARE

Don't Put a Child Into Narrow Skirts and Long—Respect the Divine Right to Run—Pretty Outfits for the Country.

[Written for the Blade by Ellen Osborne. Copyrighted 1890.]

WHEN the first yellow butterfly hovers over the first dandelion bloom I can't run and catch it, because my skirts are too long. I am used to my skirts, and I shan't try, but the toddler will try and she will tumble down and bump her nose. Her skirts are about as long as mine and they are narrower. The toddler lives and moves and has her being running. I have grown through lapse of years quite accustomed to the dignified promenade. If anybody tells the toddler in my hearing that she is seeing her happiest days, I shall say: "Fudge, dear, don't believe it; you will have much nicer times by and by."

FRENCH DRESS FOR A CHILD.

It's an odd circumstance that the one French fashion we refuse to accept is the most sensible fashion France offers. The Parish fashion plates without exception show us short, full, nodding and dipping skirts for runabouts, but we turn our backs on them. English fashion has pronounced distinctively and decisively against the long, scant breadths of the Kate Greenaway which twist themselves about a childs legs as soon as ever it gets into full tilt of play. The American child when fashionably dressed is a dainty picture of quaintly pretty and aesthetic cripplehess. (There used to be such a word, if there isn't now.)

The idea is all but universally accepted that children are sensibly and beautifully dressed nowadays. In point of fact the overdressing of children is not decreasing, and this overdressing runs to one of two extremes. There are foolish mothers who caricature the Paris fashions by making ballet girls of their little ones, but these short-skirted almost no-skirted urchins are few. More than half the toddling mites one meets on the streets or sees painfully endeavoring to play in the parks wear frocks and "coats," as they call their spring overcoats, quite down to their heels, and reach home after a walk of melancholy dignity with nursemaids or governesses with petticoats splashed with mud quite as if they were 30 instead of 3. It is impossible to have much respect for a civilization which pinches a baby's arms by so dressing it that it has to hold up its draperies.

There is not a prettier sight under heaven than a pretty child prettily arrayed. The "living jewels dropped unstained from heaven" are so graceful in their movements, so unconscious of themselves, so natural in all they do. They seem made to be flower-decked and worshiped; but they are very human little idols, and a flush that means headache comes on the peachy cheeks, and the curly heads droop like over-weighted roses when they are tied into the immense flapping hats that Easter has provided for them, covered with flower gardens or bonded over with plush. Directly in from nymph who is going into the country, and will clamor for a daily scamper over hill and dale, will be dressed in best taste, as well as most sensibly, if her outfit is the simplest possible. No dress is more practical for a little one at the seashore than a loose brown holland, pinafore shape, only trimmed with rows and rows and rows of the same. Sailor suits are just as pretty for little girls as for their brothers, and in white drill or navy serge or in red Devon serge they suit the runabout's activity.

If I had a girl of from 10 to 14 who was as enthusiastic as she ought to be over boating and fishing excursions I would turn her out for the season in a striped woolen skirt and bodice with an over dress of plain color with shoulder straps and bretelles and readily detachable, leaving the striped suit for a bathing gown as often as she chose to turn mermaid and add a swimming lesson to the day's programme. So should she turn her city bleached skin to a clear country olive and never mind her looks.

The tartan plaid ginghams suit children. It were pity otherwise, for they suit no one else surely. A very necessary summer provision for a household of little people is a supply of the fine blue, pink or terra cotta zephyrs or Swiss prints, with their bright fast colors, made up in the simplest Empire styles, with full sleeves gathered into bands of needlework, full gathered skirts and short-waisted bodices. Such frocks should be short enough to always show some of the stocking, and a child may be made "smart" in the least trimmed apparel, provided, first, the material is good of its kind; second, the sleeves are high, which gives a picturesque look to the plainest little dress; third, you show yourself up with the times by matching little Miss Muffit, top and bottom, stockings and hair. The budding little belles whose mammas belong to the 400, wear black stockings this spring, you must understand, if they have black hair, brown stockings if the hair is brown.

It is not the correct thing to put a child into an elaborate white wash dress after it has passed the age of 3. White cashmere dresses with pretty little Empire bodices and dainty trimming of feather stitching in cream or colored silks are for dress occasions always suitable, but the favored materials for girls past babyhood are percales and washing silks and chambles. Such frocks are over-trimmed very commonly by too zealous mothers who seem to think that a girl baby is born for no purpose but to be embroidered; but a child's dress is neither tasteful nor artistic when its sleeves are tied tightly about the middle with ribbons and when rosettes or little buttons are flung at it by the double handful and "baby" ribbons are laced and

CHILD'S WRAP AND FISHERMAN SUIT.

interlaced from one point of the harness to another until it appears that the poor little queen has gotten herself hopelessly tangled with the streamers of her Maypole. Wise mothers choose a low blouse over a guimpe or yoke of Swiss embroidery, with shoulder straps and sash in black velvet; or a full waist pointed back and front with leg o' mutton sleeves and graduated rows of velvet ribbon about the straight skirt with its simple four-inch hem; or a high round waist shirred at the neck and with the fullness at the waist held by a big buckle; or a blouse of surah of India silk with jacket front; or a pointed waist with bretelles, the velvet ribbons and rosettes, which either into this arrangement not being too overpowering.

Suitor us to will be the favorite costumes for little boys this summer. They are now much made with trousers, wide at the bottom. The youthful wearers, when thus clad, look like droll little men, but the effect is more amusing than pleasing. The "fisherman" suit is prettier. It calls for knickerbockers of blue serge, blue serge skirt and blue and white striped vest with blue and white sash and tasseled cap. Some of the women who got up their boys last year as Fauntleroys, are putting them this spring into "gardeners'" costumes. One youngster whom I saw at a children's party recently in a long "gardener's jacket," with chemisette of white woolen stuff, and trimmings of deep plaitings, looked, in his wide knickerbockers gathered into bands below the knees, quite picturesque but uncomfortably conscious of observation.

The most elaborate costumes made for children are for the little bridesmen and maids. At a pretty wedding last Wednesday a curly-headed boy wore a page's suit of dark green velvet with light breeches fastened with silver buckles, slashed at the shoulders with cream matching the silk sash fringed at the ends and tied at the side. His pageship wore green silk stockings and low suede shoes. His dainty little sister looked very charming in white cashmere, with collar, sash and slashed sleeves like the boy's. Her hat was a white legh orn, trimmed with ostrich plumes.

A RATHER ELABORATE GINGHAM.

A small girl, who had an "at home" the other day, in imitation to her mama's, wore a Louis XVI. blouse, in washing silk —shot pink and blue—with pinked out crimpings about neck and hair. There was a sash in twilled silk knotted at the back, and for out-door wear was provided a bonnet in white lace and satin ribbons. One of her little guests wore a flounced frock in polka dotted silk, with flat collar and cuffs of plain material, and stringless bonnet run with ribbons. Another was arrayed in a blue and white skirt of gray cashmere with full sleeves, front and band about the hem in white cashmere.

Peasant cloaks make pretty wraps for girls, and little tweed jackets smartly braided are much seen. The prettiest mantles have double fronts, and are made of fine soft woolen with tyings of broad ribbons. The most debatable feature of children's fashions is the morning costume, which is now made with much punctilliousness for an infant of 5 or 6 years. To put a baby into dead black is heathenish, but the sombre little figures are seen every day. One dimpled face that I noticed this morning was encircled by a flaring Charlotte Corday bonnet in black surah. The mite wore an Empire gown of black veiling and a black peasant cloak. In one hand she clutched a doll, and the doll save the mark, was in mourning.

Pink gums and mouth and dazzling teeth
And breath of balm and lips of rose
Are found not in this world beneath
With young or old, save only those
Who ever wisely, while they may,
Use SOZODONT by night and day.

An Opportunity for Snobs.

A matchless opportunity will shortly be offered to the snobs of India. The whole of the carriages and horses, "the property of H. R. H., the Duke of Connaught, commander-in-Chief, Bombay army, proceeding home," are offered for sale, together with the handsome household furniture * * * "the most elegant collection of furniture imported into India," etc., etc. The most striking feature in the catalogue, which I have been privileged to inspect, is "the handsomest set of curtains in India—twelve pairs * * * cost price in London, 4,606 Rs. Will take 3,000 Rs." There is a surprising magnanimity about this last offer. I should have thought that in the eyes of the most likely class of purchasers the furniture of royalty would gain rather than lose in value by use.—[London Truth.

What He Died Of.

"I don't know what to make of my husband," said a young wife, tearfully; "he begs me not to cook anything, but to allow our trained cook to prepare the meals."

"My husband was different," said a lady in deep mourning; "he was emphatic in his orders that the food should always be prepared by my hands."

"And your husband—where is he now?"

"He is dead."—[Indianapolis Journal.

Spring Medicine

Seems more than ever a necessity this season, after the mild, unhealthful winter, and the unexpected prevalence of influenza, pneumonia, typhoid fever, etc., leaving nearly everybody weak, exhausted and tired. Hood's Sarsaparilla is just the medicine to overcome that tired feeling, to build up your whole system, purify your blood, impart a good appetite and promote healthy digestion. Try it this spring.

"I have been taking Hood's Sarsaparilla for four or five years as a spring medicine, and feel perfectly satisfied with its effects. My sister, too, has taken it for rheumatism, and has been much benefitted by it." MRS. E. C. ERICKSON, 22 Union Avenue, Worcester, Mass.

N. B. If you decide to take Hood's Sarsaparilla do not be induced to buy any other.

The marked benefit which people in run down or weakened state of health derive from Hood's Sarsaparilla, conclusively proves the claim that this medicine "makes the weak strong." It does not act like a stimulant, imparting fictitious strength from which there must follow a reaction of greater weakness than before, but possessing just those elements which the system needs and readily seizes, Hood's Sarsaparilla builds up in a perfectly natural way, all the weakened parts, acts upon the blood as a purifier and vitalizer, assists to healthy action those important organs, the kidneys and liver.

"I have for a long time been using Hood's Sarsaparilla, and believe me, I would not be without it. As a spring medicine it is invaluable." E. A. RHODES, 130 Ontario Street, Chicago, Ill.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Sold by all druggists. $1; six for $5. Prepared only by C. I. HOOD & CO., Apothecaries, Lowell, Mass.

100 Doses One Dollar

Sold by all druggists. $1; six for $5. Prepared only by C. I. HOOD & CO., Apothecaries, Lowell, Mass.

100 Doses One Dollar

The Camp Fire.

(Contributions from the old soldiers are earnestly solicited by the editor of the CAMP FIRE. No matter if you cannot write a lengthy history of your lives, for we much prefer short, lively sketches, personal and historical. All communications will be attended to, and no contributor will be overlooked. We do not want anything from the records, as we are supplied with a full set.]

SULTANA SURVIVOR.

Captured by the Johnnies—Blown Into the River and Rescued by a Yawl.

FORAGING expedition that was sent out from Huntsville, Ala., consisted of ten men and a lieutenant, and nine wagons. A force of 480 Johnnies attacked us, and we gave them a right warm reception. In less than 20 minutes we had killed twelve and wounded about twenty of our assailants; but we were overpowered and captured. The rebels took our shoes, coats, hats and blankets and then marched us to Hollow mountain, distant 100 miles, over frozen ground, barefooted. Thence we were shipped to Cahaba, in stock cars, where we received each day half a pint of cornmeal, cobs, husks and all being ground together.

We remained there until the Alabama river overflowed, and for ten days we were compelled to stand in water waist deep. Eight hundred prisoners were then sent to Selma (myself among the number) and paroled, and thence to Vicksburg, having to walk from Jackson to Black river. A great many of the comrades died on the way. The government sent food and clothing to Jackson, and wagons to transport the sick, but the rebs stole the goods, and I don't know what became of the horses. I was among those that were put on board the fated steamer Sultana, en route to Camp Chase. The steamer exploded and I was blown into the river, sustaining a dislocated wrist. After floating twelve miles I was picked up by a yawl from one of our gunboats, being nearly frozen. I never reached Camp Chase, but went to Indianapolis and was discharged. Would like to have others of the Sultana survivors respond.—MARCELLUS REYNOLDS, Co. C, 68th Ind. V. I.

A SURPRISED DOCTOR,

And an Equally Astonished Widow—Sequel of a Practical Joke.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—Dr. J. D. Adams, while at the hospital at Atlanta, Ga., was ordered to procure a new suit of clothes, and accordingly he ordered a new suit to be made for him at Lawrence. When they were finished the doctor detailed me to go after them. On my return trip I stopped at De Soto. The landlady at whose house I stopped had sued for a divorce from her husband, and the case was to be heard in court the following week. While waiting for dinner I paid court to the lady, under the *alias* of Dr. Adams, having donned his brand new suit for the occasion. The result was, that before I left the house she had promised to be my wife. I instructed her when she came to Atlanta, to attend the trial of her case, to call at the hospital and remain with me, and thus save expenses. Sure enough, on the appointed day she came and asked for Dr. Adams. In the meantime I had disappeared. When the unsuspecting doctor appeared, both he and the lady were thunderstruck. She stoutly insisted that he was not Dr Adams, while he as persistently declared that he was that person. They were not long in perceiving that they had been made the victims of a huge practical joke, and explanations followed. That night I was tried by a drum-head court-martial, and sentenced to pay a fine of $5 for personating an officer. Neither the widow nor the doctor appreciated the joke, but it was fun for the boys.—W. V., Co. H, 11th Kans.

THE AUSTERE CAPTAIN

Tells a Story While Toasting His Shins By a Camp Fire.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—One stormy night during the winter of '62 63, while the 13th Va. Vols. were in camp at Wolf Run Shoals, Va., Co. I and Co. F were called out and started for a picket post about two miles distant. Mosby had captured a part of the post and was inside our lines. We had a rough time, but when we all got back to the post the storm had ceased. The boys had collected lots of dry timber and a rousing fire was burning. In conversation something was said about our colonel. The captain of company I had always appeared to us boys of Co. F, as cross, surly and hard to become acquainted with, but at mention of the colonel's name he said:

"Yes, the colonel is all right; but do you know once I felt like murdering that man?"

We were all attention, then, and asked him to tell the story.

"Well," said he, "we were both lawyers, and both from Montpelier, Vt. I studied law with him and knew him to be a brew old cuss. When I opened up business, in the first case I had the colonel was counsel for the defendant. I studied up the case on every side, and when I delivered my maiden speech I closed every door and put up all the bars, I thought. When I sat down I glanced at the colonel and thought, 'Now, you old devil, see if you can tear that speech to pieces.' The colonel arose, looked over the courtroom until he had secured the attention of every one, and then said:

"'I suppose my young friend thinks he has made a grand effort—and, indeed he has, for a boy; but it reminds me of an incident that happened on the street the other day. As I was going home, not far from E street, I saw a jackass tied to a tree kicking and braying. I gazed at the animal for some time, but I could not make up my mind whether he was kicking at the brays, or braying at the kicks.'

"Yes, the colonel is a No. 1 soldier, and he has no truer friend in this regiment than I; but if I had possessed a revolver when he sprung that jackass story on me in court, I am thinking he never would have been colonel of the 13th Reg."

After that we all became acquainted with the captain, without any trouble and learned to like him.—J. J. AMBLER, Co. F, 13th Va. Vols.

SPRING HILL

Bobs Up Serenely—Another Comrade Talks About That Mysterious Matter.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—I was on that march by Spring Hill, and this is what I saw and heard about it: I do not remember dates, but one afternoon our cavalry had a fight with the rebs at Spring Hill, in 1864, and the next day we marched out "end-ways," as we used to say, for Spring Hill. We marched quite a distance after night, and when darkness came on we saw the rebels' camp fires and thought our troops were going in camp; but when we came up to their picket, just a rod or so from the pike to our right, one of our officers rode up to the vidette and asked him what troops were there. We saw the picket replied, "Gen. Bragg's," and the officer exclaimed, "all right!" and rode back to our line and sent an orderly to inform the boys to make as little noise as possible; that we were going by the rebs, who were in line behind their breastworks, not more than a quarter of a mile from the pike to our right. We passed them by and went into camp, I think not more than half a mile from the Johnnies. We were in the advance. It took our troops nearly all night to get in camp. Some time the next day our army pulled out for Nashville, and we brought up the rear. We had several little spats, one close to Nashville to the left of the pike. It was my understanding that none but our cavalry was in any engagement at Spring Hill.—J. R. MCFADDEN, Co. E, 79th Ind. V. I., 3d Brig. 3 Div. 4th A. C.

A PLEA

For General Howard—Comrade Crabtree Called Down by One of the 4th Corps.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—An item from Henry Crabtree, Co. C, 57th O. V. I., claiming cowardice on the part of that grand old hero, Gen. O. O. Howard, comes from a member of the only Ohio regiment that gave C. L. Vallandingham a majority of its votes for governor in 1861. In vindication of Gen. Howard I wish to deny the falsehood. Gen. Howard commanded the 4th Corps on the Atlanta campaign until McPherson fell, July 22, 1864, when, by request of Gen. Sherman, he was put in McPherson's place. On May 28, 1861, O. O. Howard left the assistant professorship of Mathematics at West Point and took charge of three of the first 3-year regiments to leave the state. He was in the first battle of Bull Run, with McClellan at the Peninsula, and lost an arm at Fair Oaks. Hardly had he recovered from his wounds when he was again at the front, at the head of a brigade, and took part in the 2d battle of Bull Run; in retreat from Centerville, he commanded the rear guard; at Antietam, succeeded Gen. Sedgwick; led a division at Fredericksburg; at Gettysburg, he seized Cemetery Hill, and from it sent forth a storm of death-dealing missiles that crushed Lee's last hope. President Lincoln sent him an autograph letter of thanks for his services; Congress passed a vote of similar import. When Rosecrans was re-enforced at Chattanooga, Howard was there; when Fort Buckner was stormed, Howard was there; when Sherman was marching to Burnside's relief, Howard was there; he was at the siege of Atlanta, and when Hardee attacked Howard's command the rebels were repulsed, with great loss. At Jonesboro the same fate befell Hood's army at his hands. When Sherman went down in a small boat to meet Admiral Dahlgren, Howard accompanied him. Gen. Sherman said of Howard: "I found in him a polished, Christian gentleman, exhibiting the highest traits of a soldier." That bugle sound Crabtree heard behind a tree must have been from a disordered liver, or excessive fright. Gen. Howard did not follow bugling. He was not a coward, but a patriot and a brave soldier—the Henry Havelock of the Union army.—ALEX. CARMAN, Co. B, 45th O. V. I., and Co. I, 51st O. V. V. I., 1st Brig., 1st Div., 4th A. C.

BATTLE OF IUKA.

He Was Initiated in Practical Warfare on Iuka's Bloody Field.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—Like Comrade Gandy (Co. F, 30th Iowa), I was very anxious to "see the elephant." My curiosity was gratified September 19, 1862. Our brigade, composed of the 10th Mo., 56th Ills., 80th Ohio and 17th Iowa, broke camp near Iuka, Miss., one morning, and started, as the boys supposed, on our usual wild goose chase. We marched along quietly until, about the middle of the afternoon, when the brigade came to a halt to let the artillery pass to the front. Sharp cracking of Springfield rifles on the skirmish lines a short distance in front of us told us that the battle would soon begin. While waiting I made up my mind that I would kill rebels (it was my first battle), as long as my ammunition lasted, then club my musket. Soon Col. Rankin's order came, "Fall in 17th Iowa; right face, forward, double quick," and I ran about half a mile and halted among Black jack grubs, and in rear of the 5th Iowa and 12th Wis. batteries, which were hotly engaged with "Pap" Price's troops. The bullets were flying like swarms of bees, cutting limbs and bushes all around us. This, mingled with the incessant roar of artillery, the screaming of shell and the shouts of command, made me feel curious enough. Every mean trick that I had ever been guilty of flashed through my mind in an instant. I lost all anxiety to kill rebels; I had rather been at home. We were ordered up to support a battery, which we did in good style, receiving and repulsing a desperate bayonet charge. That old rebel yell rings in my ears yet. The battle lasted until late in the evening. When the firing ceased the battle of Iuka had been fought and won.—DANIEL SPENCER, Co. C, 17th Iowa, V. V. I.

A LITTLE SOLDIER

Who Fared Very Well—Two Specimens of the Confederate Army.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—During Sherman's advance on Kennesaw mountain the 68th O. V. I., under Gen. M. D. Leggett, formed the skirmish line. As we crossed a rail fence the general gave the order that each man should shoulder a rail, said rails to be used in constructing breastworks. The rails were about sixteen feet long, pinoak, and were very heavy. I concluded I could not possibly carry one and so advanced without. We crossed an open field and the general, noticing I had no rail, wanted to know the reason. When I told him that I was not equal to the task he said, after looking at me a moment: "You can go; you're so —— small the Johnnies can't hit you, any way." Although I was a small soldier, I had the advantage of the heavy men on a forced march. After the artillery and commissary supply trains had passed along, the rear guards would be so badly cut up that the majority of the men would be obliged to wade through mud knee-deep, but being so small and light I could skip over the mud, and when we went into camp I would be as nimble as a top, while tired and worn-out stragglers would be coming in all night long.

While on picket duty on the banks of the Chattahoochie, Oregon Shaffer, a member of my company (B), opened a conversation with the rebs on the opposite side of the river. After telling us what regiment they belonged to, and extracting from us the same information, they proposed crossing the river to where we were, providing we would not shoot. Oregon told them to rest easy on that score, and so two of them crossed in a small boat they had. They were well provided with tobacco and we exchanged some of our hardtack for tobacco. But they were the roughest looking men I ever saw. One wore an old gray suit, and the other a "butternut" suit, all "tattered and torn," and they were barefooted. Their unkempt hair reached to their shoulders and they looked as if they had not been shaved for years. However, as a general thing, the entire rebel army "looked that way," being scantily provided with clothing.—GALEN PETERS.

FORT PILLOW

Was the Darkies' War-Cry—How a Negro Regiment Fought at Nashville.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—During a lull in the battle, December 16, in front of Nashville, several regiments of rebels, I noticed, had raised white flags on their works. I supposed they had surrendered. I saw one regiment march out in front of their works and stack arms, and then form in rear of their stacked arms. Just as they had finished forming their line a colored regiment was in the act of marching by the rebels. When within about 100 yards of them the darkies commenced singing "Rally Round the Flag," when suddenly the Johnnies made a rush, grabbed their muskets and went for the negroes, sounding the rebel yell. The darkies were startled, but facing their assailants they sent a withering volley into them, and then ensued the fiercest combat I ever witnessed. The rebels were determined to exterminate the negroes, while our colored soldiers were cool and fought with better judgment than their adversaries. A Wisconsin regiment started to rescue the darkies, but just then a tall, black sergeant yelled in thundering tones, "Remember Fort Pillow!" The effect was magical. The negroes were transformed into devils incarnate, and the "rebels, what was left of them, turned and fled to a Wisconsin regiment for protection. The negroes were in hot pursuit of their late assailants, and the only protection accorded the rebels was to surrender their arms. Rebels indeed that the Johnnies must surrender to the regiment that whipped them. It was a bitter, bitter pill, but it was downed gracefully. I had heard of men "stepping high," but I do not believe the step of those black soldiers some of them with their old masters as prisoners, was ever equaled. The cheers of those black soldiers, they did not try to humiliate the rebels. Everything was done with military precision, still they could not restrain an occasional "yah, yah!"

The cause of this attack on the colored regiment was the idea that it was sent there to receive their surrender, while in fact a colored regiment never broke in their proximity, but was ordered to a position further to the left. The colonel of the blacks was wounded slightly, while the commander of the rebels was killed; 16 blacks and 26 rebels were killed in less than ten minutes. The Johnnies said afterwards that the negroes would not let them surrender; that they would bayonet them while begging for their lives. I cannot vouch for the truth of this statement, however. I know the rebels were in a fearful rage; but one thing is certain, the attack was made by the rebels, and they seemed to have the best of it until the cry of "Fort Pillow" was raised. The colored

Question Bureau.

RULES.—1.—Do not send more than three questions at one time. All questions to receive attention, must be on separate sheets from business letters or articles for other departments, written on one side of the paper only, and the true name and address must be given. If requested, the name and address will not be published.

2.—Do not ask us where you can *sell* anything, or where you can *buy* anything. Such requests are advertisements, and must be paid for.

3.—No addresses will be given, either of business firms or of persons, in reply to requests, to do so would be to give them free advertising.

4.—Do not ask us whether any business, company or individual is reliable. We will not reply.

5.—This department is intended to answer only such queries as are of *general* interest to the masses of the BLADE'S readers; hence we will not waste space in answering questions that are not.

6.—We can not give space to mathematical problems, puzzles, etc., nor will we decide bets.

7.—No replies by mail, under *any* circumstances.

Pension Questions.

R. D. W., New Madrid, Mo., asks: "Is the wife of a soldier entitled to a pension after her husband's death if she married said soldier after his discharge, and he was drawing a pension at his death?"

Yes, if his death can be proved to be the result of wounds or sickness contracted in the line of duty while in the service.

J. E. S., DeSmet, S. D., asks: "1. Are enlisted musicians upon the same footing, and treated precisely the same, with reference to pensions, as other enlisted men? 2. During the late war and rebel raid into Pennsylvania, how long were the Pennsylvania militia under arms?"

1. Yes. 2. From 30 to 60 days.

H. B. M., Hemlock Grove, Ohio: The G. A. R. per diem bill proposes $8 per month to all who served not less than 90 days, and from that up to 800 days; those serving longer than 800 days, to receive each month one cent a day for all days over 800. However, you must remember that, if a service pension bill is passed, it may be changed in many particulars in one or both houses of Congress.

W. E. W., Golden City, Ark., asks: "Is a postmaster allowed to qualify a pensioner for his quarterly pay?"

No, unless the postmaster is a notary public. A postmaster is not authorized to administer oaths, a notary public is.

H. M., Broadway, Va., asks: "Will the Pension department, in a claim for a pension, consider a commissioned officer's testimony better than a private's testimony?"

No. If a witness is reliable, his testimony is as good as any one else's.

W. H. S., South Bend, Ind.: You can prosecute your own pension claim, but we would advise you to employ a good claim agent.

H. S. C., Palouse City, Wash., asks: 1.—Do the pension laws give the colored soldier who was disabled by the service a pension the same as white soldier? 2.—What was his wage per month for his services?"

1.—Yes. 2.—$16 per month.

H. C. C., Sumner, Mich., asks: "Has there ever been a law passed giving soldiers of Ohio a state bounty?"

No.

G. R., Clarence, Iowa, asks: "I am drawing a pension for disability; if the per diem bill should pass, will I be entitled to a pension under it, in addition to the disability pension?"

Yes.

N. H., Warsaw, Mo., asks: "Will a mother, when her husband is living and able to work, and has many plenty of means to live upon, be entitled to a pension under the dependent pension laws for the loss of a son in the army?"

No; she must be dependent.

Wine at the White House.

A. D. G., Wallace, Ill., writes: "It was asserted in Sunday school here by a third-party man that President Harrison has intoxicating liquors of several kinds on his table constantly, and that while the President was, when in the army, a temperance man, he has now 'sold out' to the liquor interest. Does President Harrison permit any intoxicating liquors on his table at any time?"

We are tired of having to answer these senseless lies in political form. Why did you not ask this particular one of that genus for his authority for his statement—for decisive proof? That would have settled him. THE BLADE is able to say from positive knowledge, that the White House table does not have "several kinds" nor any kind, of "intoxicating liquors on the table." In this statement there is no dodging, no evasion. It means that President Harrison's table is without wines or other liquors at any time. There are certain occasions when the President of the United States, as a matter of etiquette, may properly have wines on his table—and that is, when he gives a state dinner to the foreign diplomatic corps. In European countries it is the custom, and an imperative one, on such occasions; and when entertaining them, it would be entirely proper—for it is not Mr. Harrison, the man, who is entertaining, but he is the chief executive of this country. Now, understand us: We say that on such an occasion it would be admissible; but we do not know that the President has ever done this. Even Cleveland, your Washington correspondent says that he has not.

Clearing-Houses.

Banker Girard, Kan.: The idea of a clearing-houses is to save time and trouble, and especially the carrying of large sums of money from one town to another during banking hours. Its operation is this: At a stated hour, messengers from all the banks belonging to the clearing-house arrive at the clearing-room, each messenger bringing from his bank a sealed package addressed to each bank against whom his bank holds a check or draft. Each one senger is accompanied by a clerk. Each clerk seats himself at a desk, his messenger standing by him. At a given signal, the messengers move to the desk of the next bank to the left, the sealed package addressed to that bank, and taking the clerk's receipt on a tabulated statement he carries with him. The envelopes are opened by the clerks, the amounts noted, and the totals footed up. When the items are found correct, the messengers return to their respective banks, each carrying the envelopes and inclosures that were left at his clerk's desk. Each clerk then passes around his memorandum of the debits and credits of his bank, and each clerk, as they pass, verifies the entry of his own bank's account. The balances due by the debtor banks are paid into the clearing-house, and those of the creditor banks are received from it. This transactions amounting to hundreds of thousands of dollars are settled simply by the payment of these balances.

Interest Rates on Call Loans.

L. L., Hartwick, Iowa, sends the following slip: "Money is abundant in Paris at 2½ per cent, in Berlin it is 3½ per cent, in London 5 per cent, according to the *Bankers' Monthly*, while in the United States it will probably average at least 8 per cent."

Possibly the foreign quotations are all right; but the rates given are for call loans in the money centers, not for interest rates on investments; and the writer of it does not give the rate on call loans in the United States. Here is the Associated Press report in the morning papers of the day on which this answer is written:

"NEW YORK, April 15.—Money on call is easy, ranging from 4 to 5 per cent, the last loan at 4, closing offered at 4 per cent."

Such juggling with facts, as is thus shown to have been committed by the editor of the paper from which you quote, is unworthy of any honorable man. We have no means of verifying the per capita circulations in other countries which you send, from the same paper, but are inclined to distrust them, for the reasons given above.

Meteoric Showers.

W. G. T., Eldon, Iowa, asks: "Please give date, and explain the cause of what is known as the 'falling of the stars.'"

Almost any clear night, an observer can notice meteors, or "shooting stars," in the sky. On some occasions these meteors have been so numerous as to give the aspect of a shower of "falling stars." The greatest ever seen in this country was that of the night of November 12, 1833, which was visible all over the United States, part of Mexico and the West Indies. These meteors are believed to be fragments of a comet, and it was predicted that there would be a return of the phenomenon in 1866, which proved correct, though the display was not so splendid. The return of the November meteors is thus about 33⅓ years. There is an August meteor stream, which is believed to be part of the large comet of 1862. There are more than 100 "meteor systems" recognized by astronomers, not all, nor nearly all, marked by great displays, but by distinct radiant points. The researches of science in this direction promise to be very valuable and interesting.

National Soldiers' Home.

F. R., Columbus, Ky., and

X. Y. Z., Boston, P. O., Ohio: "Give me some information about the 'Soldiers' Home?' What is required of a pensioned soldier to enter? How is the work? is it a 'home' by soldiers, such as cooking, laundry, etc.? If these soldiers work, do they get pay, and if so how much per day? Can they get a furlough whenever they want one, and for how long? Are they divided off into classes? if so, how, and in what way? Are they compelled to drill and go on dress parade, and how often?"

You must prove your service, present your honorable discharge and pension-certificate. All work is done by inmates, who are paid for their services, except that each is required to do table duty, i. e. he must wait on the table one week at a time, which duty comes about twice a year. Pensioners receiving $24 or more per month are not admitted. They can receive furlough; are not required to do guard duty, drill, or go on dress parade. Apply to the Governor National Military Home, Dayton, Ohio.

The Congo Free State.

C. B. M., Sherburne, N. Y.: 1.—The Congo Free state embraces an irregular tract north of the mouth of the Congo river; then its northern boundary follows the Congo and Oubangi rivers to the parallel of 4° north latitude; east to the 30th meridian; south along the west shore of Lake Tanganyika to Lake Bangweolo; thence on an irregular line west to the 24th meridian; north to the parallel of 6° south latitude; thence west to the mouth of the Congo, embracing the basin of that great river. Its area is 1,000,000 square miles, with an estimated population of 42,608,000. The word "free" means the same as "independent" in the name of this territory.

2.—The greater apparent size of the sun and moon when on the horizon is due to the refraction of the atmosphere.

"Deacon Giles's Distillery."

Several friends have sent accounts of this matter. It seems that in 1835 Rev. George B. Cheever, a young minister in Salem, Mass., commenced a warfare against intemperance. There were four distilleries, producing 600,000 gallons annually, in his immediate vicinity, and of 3,000 persons admitted to the workhouse, within a few months' was of his study, 2,000 were brought there, directly or indirectly, through intemperance. He wrote a letter for the Salem *Landmark*, which was published, and which created an intense excitement. A certain Deacon Giles, who was a distiller, and who sold Bibles, caused Mr. Cheever to be indicted and tried for "false, scandalous, indecent and malicious libel," and after a long trial, in which he made an able vindication, he was convicted and fined $1,000 and sent to jail for one month's imprisonment. It appears that Deacon Jones concluded that he was the person meant by "Deacon Giles," and the court seems to have sustained the charge.

Old Coins.

L. H. H., Silver City, Ind. Ter.: There is no premium on the silver half-dollar of 1835, and many of that of 1843.

Reader, Beloit, Kan.: A silver quarter of 1803, *without* arrows, in perfect condition, is worth $4; if with arrow, only 25 cents. The dime of 1838 has no premium. Read rule 2 above.

M. G., Toledo, O.: The copper coin, of which you send a rubbing, is a Danish 1-skilling piece.

Z. C. A., Winsboro, Tex.: Your coin is an United States silver dollar of 1872. It bears no premium.

The Cost of Rum and Tobacco.

——, Martinsburg, W. Va.: There is no way of ascertaining the amount spent by the people of the United States per year for rum, save by estimate. It is commonly accepted that it amounts to about $900,000,000 a year.

The revenue of the government for its internal revenue tax on liquors and tobacco for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1889, was as follows:

Distilled spirits	$74,362,887.98
Fermented liquors	23,723,835.26
Tobacco	31,862,185.19

It is utterly impossible to say how many people die annually, when deaths are caused directly or indirectly by drinking.

Babylon's "Hanging Gardens."

C. F. C., Forest City, S. D.: 1.—The Postoffice department does not pay its expenses, there being annually a small deficiency. As soon as the receipts approximate the expenditures, a reduction in postage is made, thus benefiting the people. 2.—The city of Babylon stood in a perfectly level plain. It is said that a queen longed for the mountains among which she was reared, and the "hanging gardens" were built for her gratification. They were probably a series of terraces, in the form of a pyramid, supported on stone arches, and covered with earth, in which trees and shrubs were grown.

Cyclones and Tornadoes.

I. M. H., Toledo, O.: 1.—A cyclone is one of the great revolving movements of the atmosphere, often several hundred miles across, with an area of low barometer in the center. It is not necessarily a storm, nor is it always accompanied by high winds. 2.—A tornado is a violent whirling storm, analogous to a waterspout at sea, marked by a black, funnel-shaped cloud; wherever the funnel touches the earth, destruction follows. It is quite local—that which devastated Louisville being only four or five squares across. 3.—A hurricane is a general name for a storm with very high wind.

Judas's "Thirty Pieces of Silver."

O. H.: It is not certain what coins were meant by the 30 pieces of silver Judas received for betraying Christ. Dr. Smith considers that they were more probably Greek tetradrachms than Roman denarii. The tetradrachm was from 61 to 68 cents. The denarius, or "penny," was a silver coin worth about 15 cents. If the 30 pieces were tetradrachms, Judas received from $18.30 to $20.40; if they were denarii, he received $4.50.

Unanswered Questions.

The following questions come under either Rule 3 or 5 above, or are requests for information we have not at hand:

C. L. B., Shelbyville, Ill.; J. W. R., Vandalia, Ill.; O. H.,——, Cantrall, Ill.

The following questions have been answered since January 1, and we can not take space to repeat:

C. L. S., Shelbyville, Ill.; C. B., Unadilla, Mich.; A. D. G., Wallace, Ill.

Stanley's Boyhood.

W. P. S., Kellogg, Iowa, and

A. M. C., Bath, S. D.: 1.—We do not know the real surname of Henry M. Stanley. He was born in a poor-house in Wales, came to America, was adopted by a wealthy gentleman of New Orleans, named Stanley, and of course took the name of his adopted father.

2.—We presume the most common surnames in the United States are probably Smith, Brown, Jones, White and Black.

Limitation of Arrears.

W. R. M., Eldorado, Ill., writes that Senator Sherman did make a speech on the limitation of arrears several years ago, and says: "His excuse for going against it was the same as President Grant's was when he vetoed the equalization of bounty bill, and signed the salary grab bill—a depleted treasury."

Sticky Fly Paper.

J. W. B., Belden, Ind.: 1.—Sticky fly paper is thus made: Take castor oil, 2 ounces; rosin, 6 ounces; white sugar, 1 ounce. Melt together with very gentle heat, until they are thoroughly incorporated; then spread on sheets of stout paper.

2.—We can not take space to give the reasons why "Brahmas' Hole" is contrary to all known laws which regulate the universe. No educated man believes it.

"Clay Was in the succession."

W. C. A., Kirkpatrick, Ind., thus explains the above phrase: "Thomas Jefferson's secretary of State, James Madison, succeeded him as President; James Madison's secretary of State, James Monroe, succeeded him as President; James Monroe's secretary of State, John Quincy Adams, succeeded him as President. Henry Clay, being secretary of State under Adams, was said to be in the succession."

Federal Salaries.

J. M., Deland, S. D.: 1.—The United States Blue Book, current issue, gives the salary of the Vice President as $8,000 per year; Senators, $5,000; Speaker of the House, $8,000; Representatives, $5,000.

2.—According to the American Cyclopedia, Senator B. F. Wade died in 1878.

3.—It did not occur to us that the Emancipation Proclamation could be considered as an "offer" to allow Southern slaveholders to retain their slaves. They were entitled to hold them, under the constitution, until after the Emancipation Proclamat on was issued.

States With Least Illiteracy.

W. B., Summerfield, Kan.: By the census of 1880, the three states having the smallest per cent of illiterates, were the following:

	Per cent. over 10 years	
	Unable to read.	Unable to write.
Iowa	2.4	3.9
Nebraska	2.5	3.6
Wyoming	2.6	3.4

The Society of the Cincinnati.

O. T. L., ——: The order of Cincinnati was a society established by the officers of the Revolutionary army, in 1783, to "perpetuate their friendship, and to raise a fund for relieving the widows and orphans of those who had fallen during the war." Its first presiding officer was Washington. It was named after Cincinnatus, who was called from the plow to lead the Roman armies.

The "Drummer Boy of Shiloh."

L. H., Grandview, Ill., writes: "I noticed in THE BLADE some one asked who was the 'Drummer Boy of Shiloh.' Five years ago he was professor of music in the state university of Colorado, situated at Boulder. His name is Mershon; don't know first name. I saw this man that was presented him in Chicago at the close of the war. His name was inscribed on it, as the 'Drummer Boy of Shiloh.'"

A Lying History.

J. W. R., Bowie, Tex., writes: "Agents here are selling a life of Jeff. Davis, which states that he was tried by a negro jury for treason. Was he tried by a negro jury, or a court martial with negroes on it?"

Jeff Davis was never brought to trial, neither in a civil court nor by a court martial.

An Old Subscriber.

J. S., Ulysses, Kans., writes that he has taken the Weekly BLADE regularly since 1849 or 1850, and frequently took two copies—one for himself, and one for some relative or friend. Would that more would follow his example.

"Poor Richard's Maxims."

W. J. R., Casseville, Mo., writes that J. W. B., of Martinsburgh, W. Va., will find Ben Franklin's "Poor Richard" published in M. L. Weems's Life of Franklin. Get some bookseller to ascertain if it is yet in print.

Miscellaneous.

E. H. D., Crystal Lake, Ill.: Better consult some book on roadmaking. It would take too much space to give full directions for building roads.

Illinois Mac: The word "Cheyenne" is pronounced "shi-an," accent on second syllable.

Dayton: If you wish to become a thorough lawyer, attend a first-class law school.

B. B., Godfrey, Ill.: The system of trial by jury originated among the Anglo-Saxons in England.

T. L. M., Trevorton, Pa.: We do not know anything about lists of estates in the English court of Chancery.

J. J. M., Rockland, Colo.: It is not possible to go by vessel around North America because of the ice in the Arctic ocean.

G. F., Green Bay, Wis.: Certainly, a person weighs more immediately after eating a hearty meal. Test it and see for yourself.

J. M. T., Oswego, Kan.: The owners of THE BLADE are not interested in any trust, ring, or combination, political or otherwise.

R. D., Toledo, O.: W. H. Harrison died in 1841. His Democratic opponent for the Presidency in 1840 was Martin Van Buren.

J. M. C., Glenn, Mich.: There is no reason to believe that the average height of mankind has become less since he first came upon earth.

J. W. B., Howard, Kan.: A letter addressed "Commissioners of Immigration, Castle Garden, New York, N. Y.," will probably reach them.

B. A. B., Hillsdale, Mich.: For other nations to interfere officially with the Russian exile system would be the same as declaring war upon Russia.

H. C. C., Sumner, Mich.: "Ohio in the War," by Whitelaw Reid, was published shortly after the war closed. You will probably have to advertise for a copy.

W. C. A., Kirkpatrick, Ind.: The word "lightning" can not be used as a verb; the verb is "lightens," as in this: "It lightens almost continually."

B. G. M., Bolivar, Cal.: Ask the person who asserted that steel pens are sold in England at 6 cents a box, and here at 75 cents, to prove it. The statement is absurd.

H. H. B., Leon, Kan.: 1.—Most, if not all, the states in the Union disfranchise persons who have been convicts. 2.—There is no powder that explodes noiselessly, though there is a smokeless powder.

J. H. Monroeville, O.: 1.—We have never seen any estimate of the number of political murders in the South since 1865. 2.—We think Wirz was the only Confederate executed after Lee's surrender.

C. D. L., ——: "Les Miserables" can hardly have its pronunciation indicated correctly in English, but this is the nearest: "Law Miz-er-aw-bl," accent on the "aw." 2.—There is no post laureate in the United States.

J. F. R., Carleton, Neb.: 1.—The Greek church of Constantinople considers only baptism by immersion as valid; the Greek church of Russia allows it, but does not make it a matter of faith. 2.—The origin of brass, or bronze, is unknown. It was used in the dawn of history.

E. C., Lamar, Mo.: 1.—It is said that establishments in Birmingham, England, manufacture idols for export and sale to the natives of the East Indies. 2.—We do not know whether anyone knows who shot Stonewall Jackson. 3.—Consult some history for a description of the battle of Missionary Ridge.

F. A. D., Grandon, S. D.: You are right; the act of Congress of Feb. 15, 1-55, which revived the grades of Lieutenant General, conferred it on Gen. Winfield Scott by brevet, but was so framed that the rank and pay did not survive him. Congress conferred it by act of March 1, 1864, when it was conferred on Grant.

A. F. B., Wellington, Kan.: 1.—A letter will not be returned directly to the writer, if undelivered, even if his name is printed in the corner of the envelope, unless the words "Return to" are also there. It will go to the Dead Letter office, be opened, and then returned. 2.—Send onion questions to the Farm.

E. E. K., Benton City, O.: The Vermont farms which have been abandoned are sterile mountain land, whose small original fertility has all been used up by poor farming. There are thousands of acres of land in Virginia which were exhausted in the same way, by persistent tobacco-raising.

E. S. H., Erwin, Tenn.: 1.—The greater part of the Salmon is from 1,000 to 2,000 feet above the sea; there are places which are below the sea level, which embrace but a small proportional area of the entire surface. 2.—The waters of the Caspian and Dead seas, like that of our own Great Salt Lake, are evaporated by the heat of the sun.

J. L., Salesville, O.: The reason the present General Assembly of Ohio is the sixty-ninth is that under the old constitution there was a General Assembly elected each year, while since that time (1852) one has been elected only every two years. From 1802 to 1852 there were 50 General Assemblies; from 1852 to now there have been 19.

C. F. C., Sugar Bush, Wis.: Alcohol is not contained in grain in the natural state. Under the application of water and heat, a chemical change is set up, by which the starch in the grain is changed to sugar. In the further processes this chemical change splits the sugar up into alcohol and carbodic acid.

E. B., Pierre, Dak., corrects us as to the admission of California being a breach of the Missouri compromise. That compromise simply prohibited slavery north of that line. Mr. Douglas unsuccessfully sought to extend the line to the Pacific coast over the territory acquired from Mexico, and California was free territory by Mexican law when acquired.

Don't Feel Well,

And yet you are not sick enough to consult a doctor, or you refrain from so doing for fear you will alarm yourself and friends—we will tell you just what you need. It is Ayer's Sarsaparilla, which will lift you out of that uncertain, uncomfortable, dangerous condition, into a state of good health, confidence and cheerfulness. You've no idea how potent this peculiar medicine is in cases like yours.

Passing vs. Parsing.

Individual—I should like to get a position to teach grammar in your school.

Professor—Have you a knowledge of parsing?

Individual—I should think so. I have passed a good many sentences. I was a police justice for ten years.—[Lowell Citizen.

SICK HEADACHE

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS.

Positively Cured by these Little Pills.

They also relieve Distress from Dyspepsia, Indigestion and Too Hearty Eating. A perfect remedy for Dizziness, Nausea, Drowsiness, Bad Taste in the Mouth, Coated Tongue, Pain in the Side, TORPID LIVER, &c. They regulate the Bowels and prevent Constipation and Piles. The smallest and easiest to take. Only one pill a dose. Purely vegetable. Price 25 cents.

CARTER MEDICINE CO., Prop'rs, New York

FACTS FOR FARMERS.

PRICES IN YEARS 1880 AND 1890.

Wages and Prices Ten Years Ago and Now—Plain, Cold Facts—Prices for Farm Products Then and Now—Workingmen's Wages.

The following article originally appeared in the Fort Dodge, Iowa, *Messenger*, in reply to questions proposed to its editor. On the editorial page of this issue of THE BLADE we refer to it, in an article upon "Farm Mortgages and Farmers' Troubles." It is well worth reading and preserving for the facts it contains:

We are very far from affirming or believing that our social order is perfect. There is much inequality and injustice in the distribution of burdens and rewards. But the important question is whether matters are growing better or worse. Are the rich growing richer and the poor poorer? Are the trusts and monopolies of which we read so much making life harder for the man who works by the day or the month, and for the farmer who must sell his produce in competition with the world? Are the inequalities of life becoming greater? Are the poor more in the power of the rich than formerly? Is it true that none of the increased production of civilization goes to labor? These are the living questions. Facts are better than opinions, and we have gathered a few facts that are very convincing.

Prices in 1880 Compared with 1890.

What better method of determining these questions is there than to compare the present with the past in cold figures? Do the wages of the workingman buy more and better food, clothes, comforts and luxuries now than formerly, or do they not? If not, then is it true that he is not getting any benefits from the development of the age? But if we find a general reduction on the cost of what he has to buy, it is evident that he is being benefitted by the increased production.

We have accordingly applied to one merchant in each line of trade in Fort Dodge for a comparative statement of his retail prices now and in 1880. We have chosen the year 1880 for comparison, instead of one more distant, because we wish to show the comparatively recent reductions. If 1870 or 1860 had been chosen the comparison on all manufactured articles would of course have shown much greater reductions. We have endeavored to procure a strictly fair statement, requesting that care be taken to compare articles of the same grade and if possible of the same brand, and to give the cash price in each case. There are sometimes so many grades of the same article that some confusion may arise unless it is borne in mind that the 1880 and 1890 prices given are for one and the same grade. In some cases where there are many makes and grades and prices it is more intelligible to give the per cent of reduction on all.

Farm Implements.

Let us take up the case of the farmer first, as he is the largest factor in the Iowa agitation of this problem. There have been great fortunes made in the manufacture of farm implements, and much talk of combines and exorbitant profit. Let us see whether the millionaires have been able to absorb all the benefits of inventive skill and large production in these implements:

	Price in 1880.	Price in 1890.
Self-binder	$315	$150
Corn planter and check-rower	80	40
Hiding corn-planter walking plow	28	14
Riding cultivator	45	25
Walking cultivator	35	20
Mowing machine	85	50
Strowbridge seeder	35	13
Wood pump	15	6
Farm wagon	85	50
Two-seated spring wagon	160	75
Buggies and carriages all reduced about one-half.		
Harrows generally reduced one-half.		
Corn-shellers reduced one-half.		

The above are the principal implements in common use. The reduction in their cost to the farmer since 1880 runs from 33 to 69 per cent. And the machinery is made better than before.

It should not be strange if with these great reductions in the cost of farm implements, and with farming lands in the settled districts, there was an enormous increase in the production of farm staples from 1880 to 1890 and a shrinkage in prices. Furthermore, has not the workingman who labors in the factory where these implements had made a legitimate right to look for some benefits to himself from these great labor savers which he sees go out to the fields of production? Does not the very principle for which our restive fellows are contending demand that the benefits of cheaper farm implements shall not be absorbed by the farmer, but that they shall reach all the consumers of farm produce?

Hardware.

The stock of a hardware store can almost be classified as farm implements, and we will examine hardware next. At the top of the list we place barb wire, as its consumption is wholly by the farmers. Our farmer friends will hardly be able to realize that ten years ago they were paying 10 cents a pound for barb wire. But we know they were, for we have examined the charges upon the books of one of the best firms in Fort Dodge. All of the prices here were procured by examining the books of this firm for 1880:

	Price in 1880.	Price in 1890.
Barb wire, per lb	$ .10	$ .01
Fence at ples, per lb	.10	.05
Iron nails in 1880, $6 per keg		
Steel nails in 1890, $2.80 per keg		.03½
Plain wire, per lb	.06½	.02½
Wash boiler	2.25	1.75
Stove-pipe joint	.25	.20
Horseshoes, per keg	8.00	4.50
Horseshoes, per keg	.20	.12½
Plow steel, per lb	.13½	.08½
Cook stove	33.00	24.00
Mattock and handle	1.40	.85
Wrench	.75	.40
Hammer, special, per cwt	.80	.45
Bull ring	.40	.25
Putty, per lb	.10	.05
Window glass, reduced 25 per cent.		
Shot, per lb	.12½	.08
Iron, per lb	.05	.03
Four-tined fork	.75	.50
Seat spring, pair	1.50	1.00
Lantern	1.50	.75
Common clevis	.20	.10
Milk pans, per doz	2.25	1.00
Buggy springs, per lb	.20	.10
Sweet iron, per lb	.12½	.06
Cartridges, per box	.35	.15
Wire cloth, per foot	.06	.03
Post auger	2.25	1.25
Cast washers, per lb	.05	.03
Slop pail	1.00	.65
Tin cup	.10	.05
Zinc, per lb	.15	.10
Pipe collars	.10	.05
Door knobs	.20	.10
Cast butts, with screws	.20	.12½
Chain, per lb	.22	.12
File	.65	.25
Tin, per sheet	.35	.20
Door latches	.25	.10
Basket	.85	.45
Roof saddle	1.00	.65
Door key	.10	.05
Covered pail	.20	.10
Wheelbarrow	2.25	1.65
Oil can	.85	.40
Plane	1.00	.60
Pipe tacks, per doz	.70	.35
Mortise lock	.90	.35
Cistern pump	4.25	2.25
Universal wrincer	7.00	3.00
Pocket and table cutlery reduced one-half		

We are told that we might have gone on through the whole stock of a hardware store with similar results, but the above were selected at random from a day book in use in the spring of 1880, and is no doubt a fair illustration of how prices in hardware compare with prices ten years ago.

There has been a good deal of talk of trusts and high prices and monopolies created by the tariff in hardware goods, but they do not appear to prevent a good share at least of the benefits resulting from improved methods and increased production from reaching the consumer.

Groceries.

Everybody is interested directly in the price of groceries. And the two best known and most successful trusts in this country are upon articles which come under this head, sugar and kerosene. This is the place, then, where we need to find the benefits of increased production and modern methods all absorbed by rich and cruel monopolies.

	1880.	1890.
Sugar, granulated per lb	12¼	07
Sugar, granulated A	11	06 2-3
Sugar, C	10	06½
Kerosene oil, 150 test, per gal	25	13
Kerosene oil, 175 test, per gal	35	15
Salt, per brl	2.25	1.25
Flour, per cwt	4.50	2.50
Coffee—Java	33	33
Coffee—Rio	25	25
Canned tomatoes, per can	15	10
Boston butter crackers per lb	13½	10
Soda crackers per lb	10	06½
Soap per cake	07	05
Crockery, 25 per cent reduction.		
Teas, 30 per cent reduction.		
Tobacco, 33 per cent reduction.		

Here is a surprise. The products of the two great "trusts," sugar and oil, show a quite as great reduction as anything. It is possible, after all, that the assertion is true that to achieve any permanent success a trust must sell its products for less than private manufacturers, and make its money out of the economies possible in large production under one management? One thing is certain, viz: That the consumers of oil and sugar are getting them for much less than ten years ago.

Dry Goods.

In dry goods we find the same downward range of prices, showing that the benefits of labor-saving machinery and large production go to all consumers. Here are a few figures:

	1880.	1890.
Unbleached muslin per yard	$ .08	$ .06
Calico	.07	.05
Gingham	.12½	.10
Worsted dress goods	.15	.12½
Worsted dress goods	.35	.25
Worsted dress goods	.65	.50
Worsted dress goods	1.00	.75

Laces and embroideries 33⅓ per cent reduction.

Silks and velvets 25 to 33⅓ per cent reduction.

Carpets 25 to 33⅓ per cent reduction.

General reduction on stock of dry goods store 23 to 33 per cent.

Clothing.

On clothing comparative figures can not be given, because qualities vary. There has been, however, since 1880, a general reduction on ready made clothing ranging from 30 to 50 per cent, and there has been decided improvement in the stability of ready made clothing. A pair of overalls sold for $1 is warranted not to rip, and lasts in every day hard labor for months. Good serviceable suits can be had for $7 to $10. It is the universal opinion of all familiar with the trade that this tariff cuts no figure whatever in the cost of such goods as laboring men and farmers wear for common. Such goods are as cheap here as in England. The tariff gets in its work on the dress suits and all fine goods, just as the Republican party intends it shall.

Boots and Shoes.

Inventive genius has accomplished wonders in the boot and shoe business since the village shoemaker took orders for the foot wear of the neighborhood. Great progress had been made in the manufacture of foot wear by machinery prior to 1880, but we can not get dealing with that time now. The average reduction in the retail price of foot wear since 1880 is 33⅓ per cent. So all of the benefits of improved methods in the production of shoes have not by any means been absorbed by the manufacturer.

Watches, Clocks and Jewelry.

The old time watchmaker has gone to join the old time shoemaker. Who gets the benefit of inventive genius there? The silver watch which retailed in 1880 at $20 now retails at $12. The set of knives and forks sold in 1880 at $6 now retails at $3. Everything in the store has suffered from 33⅓ to 50 per cent reduction. No gobbling up of all the benefits of improved methods there.

Furniture.

The retail prices of furniture have suffered a reduction ranging since 1880 of from 25 to 50 per cent. A half dozen wooden chairs such as sell now for $3 sold then for $4 50 to $5. Bedsteads sold now at $1.75 and $2.50, sold then at $4 and $6. The cut is heavy on all articles, but most on the finished metal articles. The big manufacturers of furniture have not been able to absorb all the benefits of improved methods. It should be borne in mind in this connection that the raw material of which furniture is made has not decreased in price, nor have the wages of laborers in the factories been reduced.

Lumber.

At first thought one would not expect much reduction in lumber since 1880. Standing pine costs more now than then, but inventive genius has been making the saw mills more economical, and the mill owners have failed to hold all the benefits for themselves. Freight rates are also lower. Prices compare as follows:

	1880.	1890.
Dimension lumber	$20 00	$15 00
First sheeting	18 00	13.00
Shingles	4 50	3 00
First shiplap	24 00	18 00
Fencing	30 00	16 00
Posts, each	16	11
Finishing lumber	40 00	30 00
Lath	3 00	2 00
Siding	30 00	20 00

Doors, window sash and blinds, 30 per cent reduction.

Harness.

Harness costs but little less than ten years ago. This is because most harness is made by hand, and the labor is as great as ever. In all machine-made goods there are considerable reductions.

Drug Store Stock.

The general of drugs are from 20 to 30 per cent cheaper than in 1880. Paints are 20 per cent lower; lamps, one-half lower; stationery, one-half lower; toilet brushes, 30 per cent lower, paint brushes not so long. The books of standard authors are away down, cost about one-third what they formerly did. School books are much lower.

Musical Instruments.

The grade of organs, pianos, and other musical instruments sold commonly are about 25 per cent lower than in 1880. The reduction of fancy instruments is not so great, but the people of Webster county are not much interested in $1,000 pianos.

Sewing Machines.

The standard makes of sewing machines are not sold cheaper than in 1880, but there has been a great improvement in them since then. The big break in sewing machine prices came a few years earlier. There are many cheaper machines, but the standard makes have their improvements patented and hold their prices stiff.

Interest.

How has the capitalist who lives on the interest of this money fared during this time? Is his income as large as ever?

Up to 1879 the county of Webster paid 10 per cent on its indebtedness. In 1879 it made a loan at 7 per cent to clean up its old debts. In 1886 it made another loan for the purpose of reducing the interest rate, and sold its 5 per cent bonds at a premium of $1 000, so that rate is now actually less than 5 per cent.

The bonds of the independent school district of Fort Dodge draw 5 per cent, having been reduced from 8 to 6 and from 6 to the present rate.

Ordinary loans do not show the same reductions in the interest rate, because Eastern capital does not come West as freely to private borrowers as on county or school district bonds. The loan agent gets between the principals on private loans and makes an expense. In 1880 home money generally commanded 10 per cent, and Eastern capital 7 and 8 with a commission. Now home capital demands 8 and outside capital 6, with a commission which makes it equal to 7 more.

Railroad Charges.

How have the railroads fared during these ten years? They are the cormorants we are told, who devour the substance of the country.

In 1880 the freight rate on wheat from Fort Dodge to Chicago was 33 cents and on other grain 27 cents per hundred, now the rate on wheat is 22 and other grain 20. In 1880 the rate of all stock from this point to Chicago was $80 per car 28 feet long; now the rate is $55 for cattle and $45 for hogs per car of 36 feet. In 1880 the freight on a barrel of salt from Chicago to Fort Dodge was 63 cents; now it is 33 cents. In 1880 the rate on lumber from Dubuque to Fort Dodge was 14 cents; now it is 8.5 cents. In 1880 the rate on first-class freight from Chicago to Fort Dodge was 92 cents; now it is 70. We should explain that 70 was the rate in force until a few weeks ago, at present the rate is 63, but it will probably be restored to somewhere near the old figure, so we make no account of this cut.

Conclusion.

This closes the comparison of prices on what the farmer, mechanic and laborer has to buy. We have endeavored to make it as complete and accurate as is possible in a hasty newspaper article. It is beyond dispute that the development of the age has accomplished a large reduction in all manufactured articles. Now unless there has been a corresponding reduction in products of the farm and in wages of mechanic and laborer, we have established a claim that never in the history of the human race would a day's labor buy so many comforts as to-day.

We clip from the *Messenger* of April 2, 1880, the following market report:

FORT DODGE, April 1, 1880.

Wheat	70@90
Oats	21
Corn	18@20
Rye	50
Flax seed	1 25
Barley	50
Hogs	$3 50@3 75
Cattle	3 00@4 00

Loomis & Brown quote butter and eggs as follows:

Roll	16 to 18
Tub	18 to 23
Eggs	7

We submit to the candid farmer whether with his bountiful yield of last year and his implements, barb wire, and supplies of all kinds reduced as above, he is not in better relations with the world now than in April, 1880, with prices on produce as above and his supplies at the old figure.

And now what about the mechanic and laboring man? Is it not a fact undisputed that labor of every kind is as well paid now as in 1880? As a rule, in the cities, labor is constantly fighting for a betterment of its condition and constantly gaining something, either an increase in wages or shorter hours. We need not go into details, and have not space here. Mr. Edward Atkinson, the well-known statistician of Massachusetts, tells us that since 1865 the wages of skilled workmen have advanced 108 per cent; of average mechanics 90 per cent; of factory operatives 78 per cent, and of common laborers 60 per cent.

We cannot say what proportion of this has been won since 1880, but we know that the workingman of this country were never more alert to their interests than they are to-day, and that their movement for less hours of labor and better pay never has commanded the interest and the sympathy that

TOLEDO BLADE.

THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 1890.

Cheapest Paper in the World! Largest and Best Weekly Published!

TOLEDO BLADE CO.,..... Publishers.
ROBINSON LOCKE,..... Editor.

TERMS—Postage Paid:

Single copy, one year, $1.00; Six months, 60 cents. Three months, 30 cents; Clubs of 6, one year, $5.10, OR EVERY FIFTH COPY FREE. Agents may retain 15 per cent. commission in cash.

SPECIMEN COPIES sent, postpaid, free, to any address. Send for one, and at the same time give us the address of a dozen or so of your friends. Address

THE BLADE, Toledo, Ohio.

Entered at the Postoffice at Toledo as Second Class Mail Matter.

Circulation Last Week, 100,000.

ROSA BONHEUR'S "HORSE FAIR."

The price of the Weekly BLADE has always been 30 cents to three-months' subscribers, as all know. We have sold an enormous number of ROSA BONHEUR'S "Horse Fair"—a magnificent colored engraving of the celebrated original painting—which has always been retailed by everybody else at 50 cents, but of which we have sent out thousands at 25 cents each. We have now ordered a supply of 10,000 copies, which we propose to *present* to new subscribers to the Weekly BLADE who send us 30 cents each for a three-months' subscription. Remit the 30 cents, either in silver by registered mail, or by postal note, or current funds, but not in postage stamps; we will enter your name for the Weekly BLADE for 3 months, and send a copy by mail, postpaid, of this celebrated picture. Be *sure* to mention in your letter that you want the "Horse Fair," as otherwise it will not be sent. We hope to dispose of this 10,000 by June 10, and ask our subscribers to mention this offer to their friends, in order that they may avail themselves of it. Address all orders: "THE BLADE, Toledo, Ohio."

WHILE the southern members of Congress cry out against the appropriation of money to pay pensions, they are anxious to get their hands into the Treasury for anything that will benefit their own people. A bill introduced by Mr. ENLOE, of Tennessee, who is one of the most bitter opponents of all pension legislation, is now discovered to contain a gigantic job. It appropriates $538,198 to pay for stores and supplies claimed to have been furnished to the Union army, but an investigation as to the merits of the 285 claims in the bill has disclosed the fact that no less than 90 of them are absolutely fraudulent, and 135 at least were never made the subject of an inquiry. Chairman THOMAS, of the War Claims committee, has secured from the rebel archives evidence showing that the 90 claimants either bore arms against the United States or otherwise aided the rebels.

THE time of the Senate is being frittered away by the irrepressible desire of some of the Senators to talk too much. Under the present rules of the Senate there is no way to limit a debate or take a vote upon a question until every senator has talked to his heart's content; and it is a very easy matter during the last stages of a session for an opponent of a proposition to consume all the time and prevent a final vote, as was done twice last week in the matter of the Montana senatorships. It is in contemplation to present a resolution creating a new rule which will limit debates on all subjects to one hour. Of course they do not expect a rule of just this kind to be adopted, but it will bring about a discussion which they think will result in some kind of a limit being placed upon all general debate and a curtailment of the time which a senator may have to speak upon one subject.

IF we are to credit the positive statements of the Charleston *World*, South Carolina is on the eve of a political revolution—the turning of the state government over from the one Bourbon faction which has so long controlled it to another Bourbon faction, composed of the farmers of the state, who have nominated E. B. TILLMAN for governor. The *World* asserts that the tide of public opinion is setting strongly in his favor. It warns the South Carolina Democrats that TILLMAN will recruit to his standard many men who have been driven out of politics by the selfish policy that has dictated the management of the party in that state. The farmers' platform confirms the indictment which the Independents have presented against the Bourbon ascendency. It is a very pretty little fight inside party lines.

THE free trade Democrats have howled for years over the "poor man's breakfast table." Well, there has been no duty on coffee or tea since 1872, both being put on the free list in that year, and the only thing on the aforesaid breakfast table which could serve as a basis for the howl is sugar. Now comes the new McKinley bill, which proposes to remove this tax by putting sugar on the free list, removing an annual aggregate of something like $56,000,000 per year from the price the people pay for sugar, yet our free trade friends are abusing and opposing it with unified voice. There is no consistency in this.

SOME of the free trade papers are arguing that the wool on a sheep is the least element of value—that if the animal is valued at $4, the flesh is worth $3 and the wool $1. All this may be true, and yet the wool be the chief element of value. They forget that the $1 worth of wool is an annual crop, and that the sheep thus pays 25 per cent on its value every year. If the animal is sold at $4, and the money be invested at 6 per cent, it pays only 24 cents a year, while if it be kept for its wool, it pays $1 a year on the capital invested.

GEN. JOHN C. FREMONT has been placed in the retired list of the army, with rank and pay of a major-general. This is a simple act of justice to a distinguished and worthy officer, but it has been so long delayed that it seems probable that "The Pathfinder" will not live to enjoy it. He has long been in ill-health, and is now reported to be seriously indisposed. He is an old man, and in the course of nature his stay among things mundane must necessarily be brief.

BISHOP JOYCE, of the Methodist Episcopal church, is quoted as expressing a fervent belief that ROBERT T. LINCOLN will be the next President of the United States, basing his opinion upon observations made during his extensive episcopal tours over the country. We are inclined to think that the Bishop may be right. Mr. LINCOLN is undoubted the first choice of a vast number of voters, as THE BLADE happens to know.

A SUBSCRIBER at Cimarron, Kansas, writes as follows regarding "Andersonville:"

"I received the book, "Andersonville," in good condition. Many thanks. We have put in our evenings since its arrival reading aloud, turn about in the family, and are all highly pleased it.

"It carries my mind back to earlier years when I, too, was a boy, and one of the 'boys.'"

SENATOR INGALLS tersely sizes up the late Democratic administration, when he says, that it "left no impression upon history except in the matter of vetoing bills for pensions and public buildings." He might have added that the late occupant of the Presidential chair possessed the heaviest physique and the largest amount of egotism of any who ever held the position.

POINTS IN THE NEBRASKA CAMPAIGN.

We have received from various friends a number of copies of anti-Prohibition literature such as is being spread broadcast throughout Nebraska by the Rum Power, as well as some newspaper clippings. Several have sent us an editorial entitled "The Prohibition Campaign," from the Omaha *Bee* of February 26, with requests to discuss it. The writer shows his utter unfamiliarity with his subject in his first paragraph, wherein he apparently seems to think that the third party and the friends of Prohibition are one and the same. We wish to correct his error. The difference is quite marked. The third party men care far more for building up a new party than for building up sentiment in favor of the amendment; they would sooner injure the Republican party than the Rum Power; and they are endeavoring to turn the present campaign in Nebraska their party's benefit, rather than to the benefit of Prohibition. Furthermore, we know that not over one voter out of fifteen friends of Prohibition is a third party man in the Union at large, and do not believe the ratio is nearly so great in the state of Nebraska.

Having thus shown his utter ignorance of the difference between a Nebraska Prohibitionist and a third party man, the *Bee* writer starts off glibly, as follows:

* * * "It is already apparent that the Prohibition campaign is to be characterized by the usual misrepresentation. The platform declares that Nebraska has tried high license long enough to demonstrate its utter impracticability either to control the liquor traffic or lessen the terrible evils that flow from this common center of social, moral and political corruption.' What are the facts? The high license and local option law of Nebraska has eliminated the saloon from many places in which it existed before the law was enacted, and has greatly reduced the number of saloons generally in proportion to population.

"Ten years ago Omaha, with a population of thirty thousand, had over two hundred saloons, or very nearly as many as there are at present, with a population about four times as great. In 1880 saloons in this city were practically unrestricted, whereas now they uniformly submit to the requirements of the law. No fair-minded man who has been a resident of Omaha during the last ten years, and has observed the effect of high license, will question that they have been in the interest of temperance. Testimony no less conclusive regarding the wholesome effect of high license laws in restraining and regulating the liquor traffic is supplied by the experience of Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Minnesota and other states in which this policy has been adopted and thoroughly enforced."

But has not Nebraska tried license long enough to show that, so long as Rum is sold, so long as a saloon is allowed to open its doors, the temptation and fall of young men will go on, and the grand army of drunkards be steadily recruited? Granted that the present law "has eliminated the saloon from many places in which it existed before the law was enacted, and has greatly reduced the number of saloons generally in proportion to the population," as the *Bee* says. If that was a good thing, would not the wiping out of all of the saloons be still better? And if the present law is commended for shutting up part of the saloons, would not the *Bee* be consistent in advocating the amendment, which will shut them all up?

High license has done, in many localities, just what the *Bee* says it has done in Omaha. But it has been in existence nine years in Nebraska. It has diminished the number of saloons, closed the lowest of the dives, and had a wholesome effect on public order. We think that probably it has done all it can do, all it ever will do, in that direction. Nine years is long enough to give it a thorough trial. Those nine years should have educated the people of Nebraska up to the point of seeing that high license does not remove the evils of the liquor traffic. It curbs it, brings it under surveillance, but it fails in the one thing of preventing the steady production of a crop of drunkards, whose lives are wasted and whose families are brought to misery and want. The Nebraska people should be able to see this, after nine years' experience, and be ready now to take the next step—Prohibition.

The *Bee* writer thus unconsciously puts himself in a very absurd position—that of commending a license law because it has contributed to good order, as compared with free whisky, but opposing the amendment, which would complete the work which he commends. Then he goes on to say:

"On the other hand, it is the indisputable fact that Prohibition has everywhere failed to prohibit, except in the rural districts of the states that have adopted it, and in all such districts a local option law would have been equally effective. In his last annual message the governor of Maine called the attention of the legislature to the general violation of the Prohibition law in the cities of that state, and the leading newspapers freely admitted that such was the case.

It is *not* "an indisputable fact that Prohibition fails." And if the governor of Maine did call the attention of the legislature to the violation of the Prohibitory law, it was for the purpose of having more effective legislation for its enforcement. Suppose the governor of Nebraska were to call the attention of the legislature to the fact that the law against houses of ill-fame was constantly violated in Omaha and other cities; would the *Bee* accept this as convincing logic, that this law is "generally violated," and therefore should be repealed? Would he favor legalizing and licensing the social evil, because the law does not crush it out of every hole and corner in which it hides itself? Because the law against such houses is not fully observed, would he repeal it, and allow them to open their doors brazenly upon the principal streets of Omaha, and solicit custom from the passers-by? He continues:

"There is not a city in Maine where liquor is not sold according to the most trustworthy authority. The same is true of Iowa and Kansas, in both of which 'joints' and 'bootleggers' are to be found almost everywhere, selling the vilest decoctions and creating vastly more demoralization than would be possible where resorts are properly regulated by law."

Rum can probably be obtained in the larger cities of Maine, Iowa and Kansas; but the man who desires it has to take a good deal of trouble to find it. And the rising generation, the young men, not having the constant temptation of the open saloon before them, nor are they searching in holes and corners for it. The consumption of Rum has enormously declined in these states; and that is proof positive that "Prohibition does largely prohibit." It prohibits every whit as well as the laws against stealing, or those against the social evil, or any other restrictive law, prohibits. Then the *Bee* closes with this tremendous burst of blather:

"The consent which confronts the people of Nebraska is of the greatest importance to the future growth of the state. Its result leave us free to go forward in a career of prosperity or put an irreparable check upon our progress. All know what the effect of Prohibition has been on the material affairs of Iowa and Kansas. Nebraska cannot hope to escape a similar disastrous experience if Prohibition is made the policy in this state."

We should be glad to know how Prohibition can possibly prove an "irreparable check upon" Nebraska's progress. It has not injured Kansas nor Iowa. By what logic can any one show that the making of drunkards and paupers aids the progress of a state? Does not the *Bee* know that, in its own city of Omaha, under Prohibition, the money that it is now spent in saloons for Rum would then be paid to merchants and tradesmen in legitimate lines of business, and thus the city's real progress would be aided instead of retarded? The contest over the amendment is, as he says, of the greatest importance to the future growth of the state; but the way to aid Nebraska is, by the adoption of the Prohibitory amendment, to crush out the saloon, destroy the liquor traffic, and

Pulverize the Rum Power.

THOSE POSTAL CARDS.

Keep Them Going to the Senators and Representatives, and the Pensions Committee!

Keep the postal cards pouring in on Congress, as we requested in last week's issue. There is plenty of time yet. Every Senator and every Representative will receive a copy of this week's BLADE, with the "Plea for Service Pension" marked. The more cards they receive, the more attention they will give it.

Canvass among your neighbors. It would be advisable, in such a case, to write three letters, copying the matter we gave last week at the head of each, and getting every one to sign all three. This is just as good as single postal cards, and cheaper.

Get your Grand Army posts and the Sons of Veterans to send letters of this sort. Get them in as promptly as possible!

OUR MERCHANT MARINE.

The New York *Sun* is Democratic, but it has no sympathy with mugwumpery, nor with its systematic decrying of our merchant marine, which has been bitterly misrepresented by all the free trade clique, for their own ends, for years. Read the *Sun's* screed on the latter topic:

"The Boston *Transcript* quotes Webster's remark in 1825, 'we have a commerce that leaves no sea unexplored.' The *Transcript* asks where that commerce is now.

"Well, the statistics show that about one hundred and fifty per cent of it still remains, if we may venture that paradox. The capacity of our merchant marine engaged in the foreign trade is almost exactly half as large again as it was at the period of Daniel Webster's proud boast.

"In 1825 the American tonnage engaged in the foreign trade was 905,409. In 1889 we had a million tons in foreign trade; or, to be exact, 999,619 tons.

"It is perfectly true that as compared with 1825 the present condition of our foreign carrying trade is far from satisfactory; that there has been a terrible decline since the period of the greatest prosperity in the ten years just before the war; and that the problem which the steady decline presents to statesmanship is of serious importance.

"Nevertheless, it is rasher absurd for an intelligent newspaper, published at the commercial metropons of the New England states, to demand gravely what has become of the foreign commerce to which Daniel Webster referred in 1825, when in fact our merchant tonnage is 50 per cent larger now than it was then.

"We ought to be proud of the American ships that still sail the seas. As Captain Bates told the House committee on Merchant Marine at Washington a few weeks ago, the American-built wooden ships excel the world in safety, size and speed, and in efficiency and cheapness of carriage."

The *Sun* might have added that our fleet engaged in the coasting service is the largest in the world; and might also have called attention to the enormous marine trade on the lakes, which is greater than the entire merchant service of many foreign countries. Only a portion of it needs to use the Sault Ste. Marie canal; yet the traffic through that waterway, closed by ice as it is for several months each year, is greater than the total passing through the Suez canal, which is open constantly. Our people need to consider all these things as a whole, rather than one item, taken separately.

"DR. CARLIN'S RECIPES" VERY CHEAP, TO CLOSE OUT.

Although several very large editions of "Old Dr. Carlin's Recipes" have been printed, the supply is nearly exhausted We have a remainder of only a few dozen on hand, the covers of which are slightly discolored, but the inside of the books is as good as ever.

We will send these by mail, postpaid, at *one dollar* each. The regular price is $2. It is a book of 600 pages, filled with valuable and proved recipes. The supply is very small, and they will be all gone within a few weeks. Order quickly! You will get the book at half price, and aside from slight discolorations of the cover, they are equal to new.

THE Senate has passed the bill to transfer the weather service from the War department to that of Agriculture, and it seems quite probable that the measure will become a law. At different times within the past five years THE BLADE has advocated this change as being necessary to bring the service up to the requirements of the people. There is nothing, in the first place, in common between weather prediction and the business of the War department; the only reason it was ever placed there was for the reason that, when the experiment of collecting regular weather telegrams, tabulating them, and making predictions, was first tried experimentally, it was given to the signal service branch of the army. The experiment proved a success; but there is no reason for continuing it in the hands of the War department, especially since the department of Agriculture has been organized, as its work more closely affiliates with the field of this department than with any other.

THE Republican Senators from Montana have been seated. In the long discussion which preceded the vote in this case, the best speech was made by Senator SPOONER, of Wisconsin. His skill in setting forth the fact that the Democrats of that state deliberately conspired against the election of senators by the lawfully elected legislature, and that in this conspiracy they were assisted by Governor TOOLE, was such as to command the admiration of senators on both sides of the chamber. He showed the existence of this plot beyond the possibility of a doubt and also that part of the programme was the flight of Democratic members of the Senate from the state. Republican Senators warmly congratulated MR. SPOONER upon his splendid effort and his Democratic colleagues vainly endeavored to refute the facts he presented. His speech alone may stand as a justification for the seating of the Republican contestants.

AN exchange calls attention to the growth of the republican idea among civilized nations, as shown by the "Almanach de Gotha," which is an annual publication, containing, among other things, a complete statement of all the governments of the world, matters of historic interest regarding reigning kingly families, etc., and which has been published consecutively for over 125 years. When it was first issued, among its collection of sovereignties written up, there were only three republic, Switzerland, San Marino and Andorra; while to-day, out of its total of fifty-eight states mentioned, twenty-six are republics.

ACCORDING to the official statement of the auditor of state of Ohio, there were, at the date of the January settlement under the Dow liquor tax, 9,295 saloons in the state of Ohio. This gives one saloon to about each 350 inhabitants—men, women and children.

IT is reported that the explorer, STANLEY, proposes to become an English subject. This is probably preliminary to his taking some position under the British government in connection with its schemes of territorial extension in equatorial Africa.

FARM MORTGAGES AND FARMERS' TROUBLES.

A recent editorial in these columns on farm mortgages has brought us letters from two friends in the West, one of whom, at Bates, S. D., thinks that we were in error in saying we doubted whether there are as many mortgage foreclosures weekly as there are business failures. He says:

"I think that I can truthfully say that west of the Mississippi river there are more than 385 farm mortgages foreclosed weekly, and perhaps that many more farms are turned over to the money loaners on account of the farmer not being able to keep up the interest. Western Kansas and Nebraska, and the west part of both Dakotas, east of the Missouri river, will average one foreclosure to every thirteen townships per week. Farther east, the average is less.

"My estimate is based on foreclosure notices published in county papers where land is to be sold, as required by several western states."

There is no means within our reach of determining the matter accurately, and we simply gave our impression. The other letter comes from Oberlin, Kan., and its writer says that 75 per cent of the farm mortgages were made to pay running expenses, as farm products have been sold for less than cost in the West for the past six years. Then he goes on:

"Now I see you stick to the false idea of over-production. You do not believe it, for any man that can edit as good a paper as THE BLADE certainly is, is familiar with the statistics, which show that the increase of farm products does not increase in ratio to the population. In the year 1884 the wheat crop was 14,000,000 bushels in excess of that of last year, yet the price of wheat was $1.26 in 1884, while this year it has not reached 90 cents, and has sold as low as 25 cents per bushel here in Kansas."

Our friend is in error. It is overproduction in the whole world that we referred to, not overproduction in the United States alone. If he has read THE BLADE attentively, he will recall previous discussions of this matter, in which we showed the fact that ocean communication had been so enormously increased and freight rates so cheapened that India and Australia, and other countries that produce a surplus of grain, can reach the wheat consuming countries of Europe as cheap, and some of them cheaper, than the farmers of the West, whose grain must go by rail a thousand miles or more before it can be put on shipboard. We showed that the world has been, for several years, raising more grain than it has been eating. Hence prices are low. It is not overproduction in the United States, but in the world, to which we referred. If there should come a general wheat failure in Europe, or in Australia, he would see that underproduction would cause prices to rise, and be willing to admit that overproduction causes them to fall. He goes on:

"If this over-production theory is true why is it that the consumers of the farm product have to pay the same for what they consume now they did 15 years ago when the prices of farm produce would average one-third more than it does to-day?"

They don't. For full and complete proof of this, read the article, "Facts for Farmers," on the third page of to-day's issue. It is unanswerable. Then he says:

"The fault of the agricultural depression is not over-production: it is in the system of transportation and distribution, hampered by the stringency of money as a medium of exchange; and if we had statesmen in Congress instead of the political demagogues and the millionaires, the heads of trusts and rail combinations, they could and would alleviate the present depression of the industrial classes, and thereby avoid the impending revolution. It is the financial policy of this country that is the cause of so much distress, and our Congressmen know it, but they are the men who have the money and they propose to keep it out of circulation and thereby oppress the industries of the country."

As a matter of courtesy, we give space to the above. We admit the difficulties of the farmers, but wish to say to our friend that no financial policy possible in this country could in anywise increase the world-price of grain, and that so long as the world raises more grain than it eats, so long the world-price will be low.

Let us remind him, too, that he and his fellow-citizens elect the members of the House of Representatives, and elect the state legislature which chooses Senators and if "demagogues," "millionaires," and the "heads of trusts and railroad combinations" are chosen, it is the fault of the farmers themselves. There is too much of this loose talk about men in Congress. It simply is an arraignment of our form of government; for, if the people can not be trusted to elect honest and capable men to office, then a republic is a failure, and we should go back to kingly power. That is the logic of our friend's remarks.

It is an easy thing to enumerate the real ills our farmers are suffering; it is by no means so easy to find a remedy. Abuse will not help it. It is a task requiring the wisest statesmanship, the most careful discussion of consequences. Demogogues are springing up on every hand with projects, many of which would be ruinous if put in operation. The situation is too grave to be made a matter of reckless experiment in any way. We shall recur to this matter again, and discuss some of the leading schemes of relief.

SILVER LEGISLATION.

There is likely to be a great deal of discussion in both branches of Congress on the silver question, but the drift of opinion among Senators and Representatives is so strongly in favor of an enlargement of the use of silver in our coinage that it is almost a certainty that a silver bill will become a law at this session.

It is not, however, so easy to predict what shape the bill will finally take. The New York *Herald*, however, drops into prophecy, and declares the following things to be reasonably certain:

I. That both Houses could be carried for free coinage if it were not that the free coinage men dread and mean to avoid a veto. They believe that a free coinage bill would be vetoed, and they do not believe that such a bill could be passed over a veto.

II. But they mean to come as near to a veto—and avoid it—as possible.

III. The bill which will be passed and sent to the President will not, therefore, be a free coinage bill.

IV. It will not be the Senate proposition to coin forty-five millions a year, because this does not find enough favor in the House.

V. It will not be the Windom bill pure and simple.

VI. The bill which will go to the President after more or less debate will require the treasury to receive silver bullion on deposit at the market price of the day of deposit and issue notes against it at that rate, and will require the treasury to redeem these silver bullion notes in "lawful money."

VII. That is to say, if a citizen deposits one hundred dollars' worth of silver bullion at the market price he will receive one hundred dollars in notes, and for these notes, if he wishes, the treasury will give him one hundred silver dollars.

While this would not be free coinage, it would amount to practically the same thing, as far as the currency is concerned, and that is what the friends of silver want—an increase in the circulating medium. It would preclude the silver mines from sending silver to the mint and getting every 75 cents' worth made into a silver dollar, thus giving them a profit of 25 cents on each dollar coined. Practically it would give unlimited coinage; and all silver men, outside of those directly interested in the mines, will probably be perfectly satisfied with this.

MARQUIS TSENG, the Chinese statesman, is dead, aged 56. He was, with the exception of LI HUNG CHANG, the best known public man of the Chinese Empire, as he was ambassador at Paris, London and St. Petersburg, and later a member of the board of foreign affairs and admiralty board.

THE CANDIDATE FOR 1892.

The recent utterance of United States Treasurer HUSTON, a close personal friend of President HARRISON, intimating that the latter will be a candidate in 1892 for the Republican nomination, brings that question to the front entirely too soon. It is not fair to the President to practically call upon the Republican party to pass judgment upon his administration, because enough of his term has not yet elapsed to enable a final judgment to be made. There is no reason for dissatisfaction with Mr. HARRISON'S administration so far by the party which elected him. Some men who were disappointed in getting office may be disaffected, but there are always more applicants than there are offices, and those whose claims are not recognized by appointment always lose interest in the administration. It is so with every President, and will continue so to be. Nor, on the other hand, has anything exceptionally noteworthy been done by the administration. However, there has no opportunity arisen for any exceptional display of statesmanship in any line of governmental policy, and this lack is not chargeable to Mr. HARRISON.

So far the Harrison administration has proved itself careful and conservative, and in no respect has it forfeited the right to the support of the rank and file of the Republican party. It has kept in close accord with the Chicago platform of 1888, upon which it was elected; and the Republican majority in Congress is following the same policy. The legislative and executive branches of the federal government are working together in harmony. Mr. HARRISON has made no great mistakes, and his administration will without doubt prove to be a safe and eminently creditable one.

However, it is to be remembered that the re-election of a Presidential incumbent does not depend to any great extent upon his record in the executive chair. The people are not inclined to grant a man a second term. Since the days of ANDREW JACKSON—over half a century ago—no President has been chosen for a second term, save only LINCOLN and GRANT; and in their cases the reasons leading to a re-election, were extraordinary; yet, notwithstanding their phenomenal personal popularity, they met with determined opposition.

Of the Presidents since JACKSON, VAN BUREN and CLEVELAND were renominated for second terms, and defeated at the polls; POLK and HAYES declared in advance that they were not candidates for a second term; TYLER, JOHNSON, FILLMORE and ARTHUR, all of whom succeeded to the Presidency by the death of the incumbent, were anxious for renomination, but failed, even with the federal office-holders of their own appointing working for them; PIERCE wished a second term, but could not get the nomination; BUCHANAN was not mentioned in the nominating convention. Hence the record stands that those who sought nomination for a second term were defeated in the conventions, except VAN BUREN and CLEVELAND, and in both cases the people refused them re-election.

If Mr. HARRISON is really a candidate for a second term, the logic of the past shows that the situation in 1892 must be such as to render his renomination so obviously proper as a party policy that there will be no general opposition in our own ranks, or that another standard-bearer will be chosen. It is impossible to say what circumstances will arise within the two years yet to come, and hence it is hardly worth while to discuss, at this early stage, the chances for and against his renomination and re-election.

THE AUSTRALIAN BALLOT IN OHIO.

Ohio will probably fall into line with the states which have adopted the Australian ballot system. The Mallon bill for this purpose has passed the state house of representatives, and the chances are said to be good that it will also pass the senate, in which case it will become a law, as the governor of Ohio has no veto power. The vote in the house, however, was not cast on party lines, and the measure is considered as entirely non-partisan.

The bill provides for a non-partisan state board of elections, appointed by the governor, which shall have general supervision of elections, and also act as a state canvassing board; for the appointment, by the probate judge of each county, of a county board of elections (except in the cities of Cincinnati, Cleveland and Toledo, where the present boards are to remain), which county boards are to arrange the election precincts, provide for the printing and distribution of the official ballots, and canvass the returns from their county.

The official ballots will contain the tickets of all parties, each with its appropriate head. If the voter wishes to vote a "straight" ticket, he merely makes a cross after the heading; otherwise, he makes the cross in a blank space opposite the name of the candidate for each office for whom he wishes to vote. Proper and adequate provisions are made for illiterate voters. The arrangement of the polls follows the Massachusetts plan; the voter enters the room, is furnished an official ticket, steps into one of the booths and marks it, alone and secure from observation, folds it up, and then deposits it as now.

Should the bill pass, we shall watch the result of the experiment in Ohio with a great deal of interest. We believe in the Australian system, because of the secrecy which is imperative, and the impossibility of coercing a voter or of being assured of the delivery of bought votes; and while the Mallon bill departs in one or two instances from the best methods of the Australian system, the state election this fall will develop its weak spots, if any exist, and the legislature next winter can amend the law so as to eliminate them.

IT is singular what arguments will be used by those who are opposed to doing justice to the ex-Union soldiers and sailors in the matter of pensions. The Philadelphia *Times* says that "the amount paid in pensions last year exceeded the aggregate dividends of all the railroads in the country." Well, what if it did? It ought to. The soldiers who fought to preserve this country are entitled to more consideration than the capitalists. Even yet justice has not been done the soldiers, nor will it be until a service pension bill is passed.

THE minority of the House Pensions committee has protested against the Morrill pension bill as an endeavor to silence the just demands of the veterans by giving them something they do not ask for, and urges that a general service pension measure be passed in its stead. Their view is a sound and common-sense one.

TO READ the Democratic press, one would get the idea that Idaho and Wyoming territories were being forced into the Union against their will. In truth, however, every newspaper, whether Democratic or Republican, published in those territories, is asking that they be admitted to the sisterhood of states.

IT may be that the discoveries of gold in the grand canon of the Colorado river will lead to a repetition of the scenes of 1849 in California. This will certainly be the case, if the reports of the richness of the discovery are corroborated by actual working.

BY the seating of the two Montana Senators, the Republicans have now ten majority in the United States Senate—a larger one than has been enjoyed since 1877.

THE NEW TARIFF BILL.

The new tariff bill has been reported to the House of Representatives, and both the Republican majority and the free trade Democratic minority of the committee on Ways and Means present reports thereon—the former discussing the lines upon which changes have been made in the schedules, and giving the reasons therefor; the latter simply rehearsing stale free trade arguments, and not presenting any alternative measure to the House embodying their views.

The Congressional elections of 1888 were fought upon the tariff issue, and the present Republican majority in the House was chosen because the people decided in favor of a continuance of the protective principle. Hence the bill reported by the Republican majority of the Ways and Means committee is a protective bill, and consequently gives not an iota of comfort to the free traders, who will howl consumedly against it. This does not matter, however. The verdict of the people at the polls in 1888 has been carried out.

We publish in our news columns to-day the report accompanying the bill, which all persons interested in the tariff issue should carefully read. THE BLADE rejoices to see that the committee has placed itself on the proper ground in its revision of the existing schedules—that protective duties shall be placed on imported products of the kinds that are or can be produced or manufactured here; and in carrying out this idea they have added a number of articles to the free list that we do not produce—in the chemical schedule, for instance.

The committee has also recognized the fact that an equitable protective tariff is one in which the duty on any imported article equals, as near as may be, allowing for due variations, the difference in the cost of the labor required in its production between this country and foreign lands. There, where labor is cheaper, goods can be made at a less cost; and to admit them on equal terms to our markets merely means ruin to our industries, lower wages to the workingmen, and general distress in the whole industrial world.

The one important duty of the present tariff law which is not protective, but simply revenue, is the sugar duty. We import seven-eighths of the sugar we use. A protective tariff aims to increase production by the duty it puts on foreign articles imported here. This can not be done in the case of sugar, for there is but a small area, along the lower Mississippi, in which the climate will admit of the production of cane sugar. No increase in this area is possible. The tariff can not, then, operate to increase sugar production here, and thus decrease the price to the consumer by larger and larger annual crops. Hence the duty on sugar is simply a revenue duty, paid by the consumer.

The committee has done a wise thing by placing all raw and low-grade refined sugars on the free list, and imposing on the finer grades a duty which will allow refineries here to continue the business. This action will crush the sugar trust, and reduce the price of sugar and molasses to every consumer. The bill proposes to give a bounty of 2 cents a pound to sugar-growers at home. This will cost something like $7,000,000 per annum, while the wiping out of the revenue duty on sugar will relieve the people of the payment of between fifty-five and sixty millions a year on sugar. This action was wise, and we are glad to see so decided a step taken by the committee.

The wool schedule has been improved, and we may look for a decided revival of sheep husbandry, if the bill shall pass, of which we have no doubt. Of the internal revenue taxes, the new bill takes off the tobacco tax. For other changes and improvements the reader is referred to the report of the committee. There should be opportunity for the full and free discussion on the floor of the House, which will doubtless be given; and the bill will then be passed. It will reduce the revenue as much as is consistent with the meeting of the government's obligations, and carefully answers the protective idea, thus carrying out the promise of the Republican platform of 1888, upon which the majority in Congress was elected.

"ANDERSONVILLE" GOING RAPIDLY.

Several weeks ago, we announced that we had printed 1,300 copies of "Andersonville," and that when they were exhausted the book will be out of print, and therefore unobtainable. Since that time, we have sold about 700 copies. Therefore, but 600 copies remain; and it may be taken as a fact that those who do not order within 30 days will be too late. All will be gone.

The book is one which every one interested in the war of the rebellion should have. It is the recital of the experience of JOHN MCELROY in Andersonville and other rebel prisons, and gives the best history of life in the prison-pens of the South which has ever been published. It is a large volume—so large, that the postage on it is 25 cents—and was originally sold by subscription at $3 per copy. We will now send a copy by mail, postpaid, for $1.25. Remember this is the last chance; when the 1,300 copies now on hand are sold, the book will be out of print. Address "THE BLADE, Toledo, Ohio."

THERE is a paper called *Amerika* published in Chicago, which is the organ of the Scandinavian Lutherans in the northwest. Speaking of the Wisconsin Bennett law, it talks sound sense, as follows:

"We have said that two languages cannot be maintained side by side. It cannot be done in this country on the plea that the German is as good and great and as deserving as the English. The English is the language of the country, 'and there's the end on't.' That closes the argument. The greatest enterprise ever planned by the human mind—the tower of Babel—was ruined by the confusion of tongues. From that day to this no enterprise has been possible where those entrusted with it have failed to understand each other. The 'American system' of civil and spiritual liberty will suffer the fate of the Tower of Babel—will become merely a splendid wreck—if there shall be a battle between languages in this country. In so far as the German Lutherans of Milwaukee are defending their language and not their religion, in so far they are not entitled to our sympathy."

CANADA is blanketed with mortgages, the same as are European countries, and as the free traders allege the Western farms to be, according to the Toronto *Globe*, which says that the returns of the various loan companies doing business under Dominion charters show an increase in mortgages, mostly in Ontario, of nearly *two hundred* per cent within the last nine years, the figures having risen from $34,000,000 in 1879 to $91,000,000 in 1888. It is not contended by the *Globe* that this increased debt has been incurred solely on farm property, but there is no reasonable doubt that the amount secured on farms has increased in proportion.

THE minority report of the Ways and Means committee on the McKinley tariff bill is a very weak document, and sets forth the principle of the dominant wing of the Democratic party. It is framed in the interest of the foreign producer, in the interest of foreign labor, and if it were adopted and its plan carried out American labor would be degraded and placed on a level with the pauper labor of Europe.

THE Chicago *Journal* sums up the argument against "a tariff for revenue only" in the following lucent crystal of solidified truth:

"Free trade, or a tariff so low as to permit a great volume of importations, would close every American factory, drive millions of workmen into idleness, destroy the market for farm produce and precipitate general bankruptcy."

A NEW FEATURE!

Something Every Blade Reader Will Be Glad to Hear.

Within the last five years, a new use has been made of novels—or perhaps we should say stories, for all stories are not novels. It is, to make them vehicles for the discussion of great questions in sociology, or religion, or politics. "Robert Elsmere" was one of these, and its phenomenal run was due far less to the story than to the bringing forward of the results of German Biblical criticism in a form in which they could be understood and appreciated by the general reader; Bellamy's "Looking Backward" is another case in point, in which social problems were discussed in the guise of a story.

There is no doubt that the "story with a purpose" is extremely popular with the masses, because it interests as well as amuses. Hence THE BLADE, desirous of treating the the overshadowing issue of our American politics of to-day—the tariff—in a new and effective manner, has just concluded negotiations for the writing of a story for its columns in which

THE TARIFF QUESTION

shall be discussed in its bearings upon the lives and fortunes of the people. The author is one of the leading political writers of the day, who has for years devoted much attention to this great economic question, and who is probably as well posted on tariff matters as any other man in the United States, and is withal a writer of clever stories.

We shall begin its publication some time during the first half of the summer, and it will extend over most of the Congressional campaign. The title and exact date of publication have not yet been determined upon, but will be announced in due season.

We can say this much, however: That every farmer, every old soldier, every workingman, should read it, for he will find discussed therein all the live issues that will be prominent in the campaign this fall, and in the Presidential election of 1892.

Also every one who likes to read a good story—and who does not?—will find it worth his or her perusal for the sake of the story, for it will be filled with incident, and its plot is a fresh and unhackneyed one.

WHAT IT WILL BE.

The scene is placed in Ohio, and while the story runs back nearly to the close of the war, the main action takes place in the future. The author has assumed that the present Congress fails to do justice to the surviving soldiers of the late war, or to answer the demands of the Western farmers for measures calculated to give them relief, and that consequently the next Congress (the Fifty-second) has a Democratic House. He then traces this supposed revulsion in public feeling through to the campaign of 1892, and the election of a Democratic President.

The reaction is so great that the Senate dare not oppose the will of the people, and the result is the overthrow of protection, the adoption of free trade, and other radical changes in national policy. The story then goes on to show the effect upon the people of the United States, gives a vivid picture of the new order of things, and the totally unexpected results which flow from it.

There is nothing in the story that is not both possible and probable; and some startling pictures are drawn which, while they seem strange, are by no means beyond realization, and that within the next four years.

The story is not yet all written, but its plan and scope have been fully laid before us, and we believe that our readers will be deeply interested. It will give them new material for thought, for discussion; it will broaden their horizon of political thought; and it will be especially useful to the boys and young men, just coming on the stage of political action.

Campaign Subscribers.

We shall make a special effort for campaign subscribers this summer, in order to give this story the widest circulation possible. We ask our friends to mail us lists of names of persons to whom we may send sample copies of THE BLADE with the full announcement of the story, which will be given in a few weeks, and probably also sample copies containing the first installment. Send us names, and send them quickly!

GET A WATCH FREE!

The attention of all readers is directed to the offer on the Trenton watch, in the Publishers' Department, fifth page. It is an excellent watch, and none have so far been returned under our warranty. It is the very best cheap watch in the market. We have several thousands of these watches, which we bought to give away to club raisers. To any one sending us a club of ten subscribers to the Weekly BLADE, and $10, we will send one of these watches free. We did not buy them to sell, but if any subscriber wishes one, we will send him the Weekly BLADE one year, and a Trenton watch, for $3. The watch retails in the jewelry stores at $5. Get up a club; you can earn yourself a good watch in a few hours.

THE Iowa legislature has before it a bill against trusts which is probably the severest known. It embodies all the provisions of the Missouri anti-trust law, except the one which has been pronounced unconstitutional, and it also provides that any purchaser of goods from any individual or company doing business contrary to the act shall not be liable for payment. The "trust" is made a conspiracy punishable by heavy fines and imprisonment, and in various other ways is rendered an unprofitable scheme of business organization. But charters of corporations entering into trusts can only be revoked by process of law, and not by the secretary of State, as provided in the Missouri law—a point which has led to the condemnation of that measure by the courts as unconstitutional.

THE vote of the presbyteries on the question of a revision of the creed of the Presbyterian church so far foots up at least two-thirds in favor of revision, and the outlook

A PLEA

For "Service" Pensions, Instead of the Dependent Bill.

To the Members of the Fifty-first Congress:

THE BLADE again respectfully urges upon your attention the fact that the pension legislation which appears to be determined upon by the Senate, and by a majority of the House Pensions committee, is not in line with the wishes and demands of the old soldiers themselves and their friends; it does not fulfill the promises made countless times upon the stump during the past five years by Republican candidates and leaders, and does not interpret the pension plank in the Republican national platform, adopted at Chicago in 1888, in harmony with the understanding thereof by the ex-soldiers themselves, nor with the interpretation put upon it during that campaign by Republican speakers all over the country, especially in the West.

The Senate has passed the dependent pension bill; the House Pensions committee desires to have a measure passed by that body which is practically the same, except that its provisions are extended to all veterans who have reached the age of 62 years, or as fast as they shall reach that age.

An attempt was made, on Monday, April 7, to rush this measure through the House under a suspension of the rules. Fortunately the scheme did not work. The soldiers of the country understand clearly the motive which prompted this attempt to use the gag-rule to choke off a service pension measure, which a clear majority of the House favors. Should any other attempt of this sort succeed, it will be an exceedingly costly piece of work for the men concerned therein.

Not Satisfactory.

The dependent bill is not desired by anybody. The men who saved the Union have an honest self-respect which makes them indignant that Congress should presume to pass a law, ostensibly for their relief, which practically requires them to admit that they are *paupers*, incapable of self-support and dependent on public or private charity, before they can receive its benefits. To omit the word "dependent," and call it a "disability" bill, does not deceive them. It is not the word, but the humiliation put upon them by this bill, to which they object.

Why should certain men in Congress be so anxious to pass a bill which is indignantly spurned by the vast majority of the ex-soldiers themselves? When they ask for bread, why insult them by the proffer of a stone?

Service Pensions.

Service pensions have been granted the survivors of all our great wars, and have become the well-understood and settled policy of the government. In the Weekly BLADE of April 3 we recapitulated the arguments in favor of service pensions, of which a copy was sent to every member of Congress. We reiterate, with added emphasis, the fact that nothing save a service pension measure, without any age limit, will be satisfactory to not only the ex-soldiers themselves, but to the people generally, especially of the entire West.

The greater necessarily includes the less; as a service pension law will include in its provisions every person who would be reached by the "dependent" bill, and without attaching the stigma of "pauperism" to him, the dependent bill can be dropped into deserved oblivion.

Twenty-Five Years

Have elapsed since the rebellion ended, and the fulness of time has come to do justice to the men who carried the stars and stripes to the final triumph at Appomattox and Jonesboro. That quarter of a century has grizzled the hair, bent the upright forms, and weakened the iron strength of the men who composed the rank and file of the magnificent armies of GRANT and SHERMAN. The long years of exposure and hardship, of fighting and campaigning, put an indelible impress upon them. Their war experience aged them prematurely; it drew upon their reserve fund of vital strength, and they to-day are suffering the consequence. Old before their time, their period of active manhood has been shortened by years. The nation they saved owes them a debt, a just obligation, that money alone can not fully repay; but what it can do should be done, through a service pension law. The pledges of party platforms, the promises of party leaders to this effect, must be carried out—and *now!*

Keep Faith With the Veterans.

The two factors necessary to war are men and money. Those who furnished the money to carry on the war for the Union have had the government's faith with them scrupulously kept. Every promise has been fulfilled, every obligation honorably met. It is the sacred duty of the Fifty-first Congress, at its present session, to take measures to as scrupulously fulfill the obligation yet due the soldiers. That fulfillment has been pledged ten thousand times, and the veterans now have the right to demand its accomplishment.

The Question of Cost.

The cost of saving the Union was not counted by either the Congress or the people, with the roar of rebel guns resounding on the Southern breeze. In the years from 1861 to 1865 no expenditure of treasure, no sacrifice of human life, was counted too great when weighed in the balance against an united country, a restored Union. In these piping times of peace the courage to face the cost, the resolution to do the right thing, seems to be on the wane. The gabbling of hypocritical mugwumps, the chatter of men whose sole strength lies in criticism and fault-finding, seems to be more to Congress than the honest demand of the men who stood against the ranks of armed treason and overthrew them, that simple justice shall be granted them.

The report to accompany H. R. 8297, submitted to the House on March 31 last by Chairman MORRILL, from the Pensions committee, gives estimates of the number of survivors of the war. It estimates that the number of ex-soldiers living on July 1, 1890, will be 1,246,089. Assuming the correctness of this total, is they were all pensioned at $8 per month, and all applied therefor, the outlay would be $119,614,544 annually. We grant that this is an enormous sum; yet is not beyond our power to meet. Nor should there be any more hesitancy in assuming this just and honest obligation than there would be were it a question of meeting an issue of bonds subject to call.

Let a policy of proper economy be adopted in our national expenditures. Stop the wholesale erection of federal buildings in the smaller cities of the country; stop the appropriation of millions per year to "improve" rivers and harbors whose total commerce for the next fifty years will not amount to cost of the alleged improvement, and make only appropriations for those harbors and waterways that are really of national importance; put a needed check on the thousand and one driblets of appropriations whose annual total runs up to millions; and if the saving then will not meet the increased expenditure, retain the internal revenue tax on tobacco, which the new tariff bill seeks to abolish, which will reach $32,000,000 a year.

These are but suggestions. The nation is infinitely better able to bear the expense of this act of justice and honor than half of it was able, in 1861, to undertake the tremendous expense of the war.

An Additional Consideration.

The states of the West from which a cry comes up for aid to the farming community are the states whose population contains the greatest per cent of the ex-soldiers. A large proportion of these are farmers themselves. No possible legislation could so quickly and effectively give aid to the people of these states as the prompt passage of a service pension bill. The money from these pensions would at once go into circulation there, adding enormously to the money in the hands of the people; and, at once entering the channels of trade, its influence would be felt over the country. Aside from its inherent justice, this is one of the strongest arguments in favor of the passage of this bill, and that *at once.*

A Closing Word.

There is no doubt but that the ex-soldiers, their sons, their friends, are at last aroused to the point of determining to take political action, in case Congress, at its present session, shall neglect to pass a service pension bill. Wherever these voting elements hold the balance of power—and they do in nearly all the districts of the West and Northwest—they will make their power felt in the conventions and at the polls in the Congressional contest this fall. It is but human nature for men who find they have been betrayed by false promises, fooled by political knavery, to seek revenge, even if that revenge shall bring them no personal advantage.

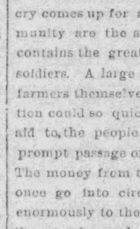
There is but one thing that can satisfy the soldier element and its friends—the abandonment of the pauper dependent bill, and the passage, in its stead, of a general service pension bill, without age limit, which shall also pension the widows. Respectfully yours,

THE TOLEDO BLADE.

WHAT THE BOYS SAY

ABOUT THE PENSION QUESTION.

Another Batch of Letters to the Blade on This All-Important Matter.



A NUMBER of extracts from soldiers' letters upon the pension question are given below, in continuation of those which have been published for a number of weeks past. They all breathe the same spirit, and only add cumulative evidence to the universality of the demand for a service pension instead of any partial and insufficient measure, such as the dependent bill.

A Strong Plea.

WALNUT GROVE, MINN.: I am decidedly of the opinion that every surviving Union soldier should receive a pension. If I could have my way I would insist that Congress at the present session should pass the service pension bill, repeal the limitation of the arrears act, amend the widows' pension act, so that every soldier's widow should receive a pension without reference to whether the disease of which soldier died was contracted in the army or not; and enact a law to grant every woman who was an army nurse a pension for life.

Let justice be done to those who made it possible for our existence as a nation to continue. Distribute the surplus to the boys in blue; not as a gift, but in payment of a sacred debt, as binding on our national honor as the payment of our bonded debt. Most of the "coffee coolers" who are now non-pensioners bore the brunt of the war. They were men of iron. They were always to be found at the post of duty, and, though often suffering from exposure, hard marching and hunger, and in the fierce contests of many battles had too much grit to give up. All these in a greater or less degree are sufferers from disease contracted in the service, but the proofs now required to obtain a pension are not to be had. I was in the army three years, eight months and ten days, and lost ten days off duty with camp fever.—F. C., Sergt. 5th Wis. Bat.

What a Veteran Thinks.

GRANBY, MO.—I enlisted in June, 1861, and served over three years, in which time I incurred three disabilities, viz.: severe deafness, partial loss of sight, and rheumatism, for which I have been drawing, for the last six years, a liberal pension. And I do not hold that I could justly claim arrears, for it is entirely my own fault that I did not make application in due time.

In the next place, it is worthy of note that I managed my case alone, without the assistance of an attorney, and thereby saved a good deal of trouble and expense. And I am under the conviction that, in the most of cases, a claim agent is more of a hindrance than a benefit, and I cannot see wherein the present laws are not plain enough that the old soldier cannot manage his claim for himself. And furthermore, I will state that the Pension bureau voluntarily furnished me with the names and addresses of the officers and men of my regiment necessary to complete my claim.

Now, as I have been so fortunate as to get my claim through all right, and am thoroughly satisfied that no injustice has been done me, I wish that every deserving soldier could meet with the same good fortune—and then be satisfied, or at least stop complaining. I speak thus because that the greatest amount of complaint which I hear comes from those who are now drawing a liberal pension, and they will not be satisfied until they reach the highest round. If disabilities increase let them make application for increase of rate—that is all right; but what I mean is, that when they get all the law allows them let them stop growling.

I oppose this "growling" simply from the fact that I am well convinced that it has a tendency to create prejudice in the minds of some people against any further pension legislation. I am now 50 years old, and am not able to do any hard work; and no amount of money could compensate the damages that I incurred while in the service of my country, but, at the same time, I do not grudge a single day of that time, and if I could recall my time again, I would do the very same thing again.

I am a stiff Republican, too, but I think that it is the best policy not to drag the party lines so closely on the pension question, for we know that many of the northern Democrats have an interest in this matter as well as we.

Now, what do we want our Congressmen to do? Let us not get too many irons into the fire, lest we get some of them burned. First, let Congress devise some means to adjust those 400,000 claims now pending in the pension office, and in the next place pass the service pension bill. The dependent pension bill, in my opinion, is good in theory, but liable to be abused in its application, and would benefit only a few.—J. W. S., Co. C, 6th Mo.

A Post for Service Pension.

MT. PULASKI, Ill.—Our whole G. A. R. post voted for an $8 service pension by all means. What we ask of our government is, she shall redeem her pledges made to the boys in blue. I was promised a bounty of $100 when I enlisted. Did I get it? Well, not yet. They made another bargain with me after I was sworn in. Money was not my object then, but my government was. I have always regarded the soldier as being more to the government than the bondholder, although they are both very essential in war. Now what would the bondholders' government bonds be worth at that time had the boys in blue not gone on their bonds? Yea, they dipped their bayonets in their own blood and signed the bonds and thu made them worth one hundred cents on the dollar. The bondholder is paid dollar for dollar in gold, and the boys were paid dollar for dollar in depreciated paper.—G. A. R.

They Want Service Pension.

BERLIN, WIS.—I send copy of resolutions adopted by our G. A. R. post in relation to pension bills:

"WHEREAS, The dependent pension bill has been reported favorably by the senate committee on pensions, be it

"*Resolved*, That the members of this Post are unanimously opposed to the passage of any such bill.

"*Resolved*, That the passage of said bill would be an insult to every soldier of the late war and should be characterized as the pauper bill.

"*Resolved*, That there is due our comrades of the late war who entered the service in 1861, and quit at Appomattox, Va., and Jonesboro, N. C., in 1865, the immediate passage of the service pension bill."

The Government Owes It to Itself.

KANSAS CITY, MO.—The time has now come when right and justice demands that the United States should pension every old soldier who can show an honorable discharge for three month's service, and that it be not deferred until some distant date or age to be reached, but to begin as soon as possible; now is the time.

This is not a question of whether the government owes it to the soldier so much as whether the government does not owe it to itself to care for and protect those in their declining years who, when in the time of her peril, when the future existence of this government was very doubtful, came forward and gave their help to save it, for as sure as the government neglects the old soldier, so sure will the descendants of the old soldier neglect the government in her time of need.—F. E. B., Co. A, 46th N. Y.

Confederate Veterans Don't Object.

IUKA, KAN.—Our G. A. R. post at this place numbers near 50 members. And I know that I voice the sentiments of the members of this post, almost or quite to a man, when I say we are in favor of a service pension bill for every man who wore the blue and was honorably discharged. I lived two years in the South since the war, right among the ex-Confederate soldiers, and I know they are more loyal to-day to the old flag than the cowardly cops of the North. I talked with hundreds of them, and to-day the rank and file among them are in favor of pensioning the disabled Union soldiers. I say yes. Pension every one and find room right for the old flag. And when this government has paid out every dollar of surplus in her treasury to her gallant soldiers, she can never pay them for the service rendered.—A. W. M., Co. G, 1st Ill.

A Sultana Survivor.

GARNETT, KAN.—Some comrades writing on pensions are sure to think those having invalid pensions never did any service. I differ with them. I enlisted in August, 1862, and was with my regiment through thick and thin from Perryville to the battle of Nashville; then on January 18 was captured, sent to Cahoba, Ala., and to Vicksburg; was put aboard the ill-fated steamer Sultana; was blown into the river, had my hand and wrist fractured; lay in the water three days waist deep; never was in the hospital till after the explosion, and then only ten days. For years I was hardly able to get out of bed, and have never had a well day since I was discharged, and it took me twenty years to establish my disabilities; then I got the pitiful sum of $8 per month. I am now in favor of the service bill.—M. R., Co. C, 5th Indiana.

A Veteran's Plea.

AUBURN, ILL.—Many soldiers belonging to the Democratic party here, and in fact all through this state, voted the Republican ticket at the last national election with the understanding, if the Republicans got into power in Congress and a Republican President, that they would pass the service pension bill. They expect them to do it, and if they don't, they will make a great mistake; but I hope Congress will pass the bill, and make many old soldiers happy and their families glad. They will only need it a few years till all will be gone. I served four years and three months in the 16th Illinois. I never have applied for a pension, but I feel I need some help now.—A. M. G.

Favors the Boothman Bill.

LIMESTONE, TENN.—I am in favor of a per diem bill or service pension, for it will reach more soldiers than any bill extant; but let every soldier who has an honorable discharge receive one cent per day for what time he served—that is, if he served 400 days, give him $4 per month; if he served 800 days, give him $8 per month, and so on. Pass this bill, taking effect on and after its passage.—W. C. R., Co. M, 1st Tenn. Cav.

A Democratic Soldier Talks.

WALTON, MICH.—I am one of those "detestable" Democrats. I enlisted in 1862, served three years under Generals Custer and Kilpatrick; was always at the front and on duty; have no hospital record, and got no pension. I think that the boys that did the fighting and marching ought to be recompensed, whether they were drafted men or Democrats. I am in favor of a service pension. I am glad that the most of the boys think as I do, and that THE BLADE is working in their behalf. No matter what its politics, it is for the soldier.—S. D. M., Co. A, 6th Mich. Cav.

A Disgusted Comrade.

KIRKWOOD, NEB.—I have always been a true Republican, but I have become disgusted with the way we have been treated by both parties. We have been deceived by Republicans and Democrats alike; they forget their promises as soon as they get into office, and turn their back on the old veterans. If this 51st Congress does not do something for us the blame must forever rest on the Republican party, and I for one shall bid the old party a last farewell.—H. S.

Condensed Opinions.

UPLAND, NEB.—I am for the service pension bill, because it gives justice to the soldiers.—G. J. H., Co. E, 86th Ohio.

RUTLAND, O.—The United States has pensioned all the soldiers of the other wars; can't they do the same for us now? Is she not yet prosperous enough? I think so.—W. C.

CHESTNUT BLOOM, TENN.—A general service pension bill, separate from the invalid pension. The G. A. R. post No. 34, to which I belong, is solid for this bill.—J. M. M., Co. A, 2d Tenn. Cav.

——: Give us a service pension law upon the basis of $1 per month for each 100 days as found upon the honorable discharge of each soldier for the service.—FIRST SERGT., Co. D, 19th Iowa.

HOUSTON, TEX.—I ask Congress to give us a service pension. The servant ought to have his hire. The favored ones who hold office get it, but the worthy ones are forgotten.—S. W. Y., Co. B, 37th Ill.

GREENVILLE, N. H.—I know every brother soldier and every fair-minded reader of your paper will agree with me when I say pensions ought to be equally distributed among the veterans that fought for their country.—M. C.

JACKSON, O.—Let your Congressmen understand that the time for fooling is past, and that they must now get out of the way of that grand old army, or place an unassailable barrier before them by passing the service pension bill.—J. B. B., Co. E, 174th Ohio.

MAJOR'S, NEB.—I am decidedly in favor of a service pension for all old soldiers of the late war. We do not want to be called paupers, but we do want our just dues. If the government will do that it will do no more than it promised us.—A. J. S., Co. K, 1st Wis. H. A.

VICTORIA STA., MONT.—We want the service pension bill passed, and that speedily. It is the belief of many soldiers in this section that it will relieve more suffering among the needy soldiers than any other bill that may come up before this session of Congress.—J. B.

ROCK CREEK, KAN.—If the same sentiment prevails in other parts of the country that prevails here in regard to doing justice to the old soldiers, and I believe it does, the present Congress will have to do some liberal pension legislation or the Republican party will bear something drop.—W. H. T., Co. E, 1st Kan.

MILFORD, O.—Congressmen, remember that it will soon be the soldiers' time to sit as a committee of the whole on another question—who shall fill your places; and you will find it will soon be decided by the ballot box that you have been weighed in the balance and have been found wanting, if you fail us now.—C., Co. C, 24th Ohio.

FISHER, PA.—I am in favor of a service pension; there is nothing else will reach all the deserving soldiers; am in favor of it commencing the first day of January, 1891, at $12 per month for all honorable discharged soldiers. I am not in favor of waiting till we are about all dead. Want mine while I am living.—S. R., Co. I, 148th Pa.

PLATTEVILLE, WIS.—I am decidedly opposed to the dependent pension bill. We don't want our boys called paupers, and we don't want to be paupers either. Give us a service pension. That will be honorable pay for honorable work. If we desert the Republican party, we are going to our enemies and will get nothing but jeers.—O. S. J., Co. B, 43d Regt.

OXFORD, W. VA.—I believe every Union soldier that served in the war of the Rebellion one year or over, are entitled to a pension of $12 per month, whether disabled or not. I think it is high time the government is doing something for those who saved our union. I was not a soldier, but I am an honest Republican, and want the soldiers to have justice.—M. B.

——: I have taken pains to ascertain the opinions of the members of Capt. Hudson Post, No. 366, department of Kansas, on the pension question. I find they are unanimously in favor of the per diem bill; and equally unanimous in their opposition to any form of dependent bill. We do not ask charity; justice is all we want.—J. L. B., P. C.

BEVERLY, W. VA.—I am 60 years old, unable to do any work and must have a pension to support a family. Now what I would like the Fifty-First Congress to do is to pass the per diem bill; then a disability pension bill, giving to every disabled soldier a pension ranging from $8 to $30 per month, in proportion to disability.—J. A. V., Co. G, 7th W. Va.

MONUMENT, COLO.—I am glad to see so much unity manifested among the old soldiers in regard to pension legislation. Let us stick together and demand our rights. Let us stand in solid phalanx for the principles advocated by the great champion of soldier's rights, the immortal John A. Logan, the truest friend the soldier ever had.—W. E. H., Co. D, 9th Kan. Cav.

PIERCE, O.—I enlisted July 9, 1862; was captured at Nashville December 4, 1864; was a prisoner at Andersonville until April 1, 1865; was on board the steamer Sultana at the time of the disaster; was in the water from 2:30 o'clock until 8:30 o'clock a. m.; I never was sick nor excused from duty a single day while I was in the service, but am now suffering more or less with lung trouble, with no chance for a pension.—J. J. Z., Co. F, 115th Ohio.

CLEAR LAKE, WIS.—A general pension law that will do justice to all, is my idea. As it is now, justice cannot be done. I applied for pension; I must prove my disease, I must prove the date of the war, I must prove it was contracted in the war, I must prove that I was free from it at the time I enlisted. Men are doing this by false witnesses, as I know from observation, to the injury of and justice of the peace. I cannot do it, therefore I am left.—W. W. S., Co. D, 8th Minn.

NEWARK, O.—I am heartily in favor of the per diem pension bill, think it is a just bill for all. I also think that a bill to equalize the bounty should be passed, such a bill as was vetoed by Gen. Grant. I don't see why the three years men should not be entitled to $100 per year as well as the two and four years men, and the government will never do justice to the soldiers until they pay them the difference between $13 per month that they agreed to pay them, and the depreciated currency they were paid in.—E. J. C., Co. F, 115th Ohio.

ARKANSAS CITY, KAN.—The opinion seems to be general in this part of the Union that unless this Congress does something for the old soldiers, they will cease to vote the Republican ticket. Can the party win without them? They want something more substantial than promises. The death roll of the G. A. R. is lengthing rapidly, and pensions to be of any use to those who earned them, must come soon. I spent more than three years at the front, have no hospital record, but got a pension for a disease contracted in the service.—S. C. L.

How I Got to Colorado.

Having read in several papers that they were giving away lots at Montrose, Colorado, I wrote and received the deed so promptly, that a large number of my friends at once sent, and after getting their deeds, they appointed me a delegate to visit Montrose; through the courtesy of the Colorado Homestead and Improvement Co. I got a free ticket there and back. I had a lovely trip, and while there sold my lot for $127.50. Any person can get one lot *absolutely free* by addressing the Colorado Homestead and Improvement Co., Montrose, Colorado, enclosing 25 cents for Notary fee and postage. By giving every third lot, they will bring thousands of people there. Montrose, the county seat, is a railroad junction, and a ten thousand within a year. Their motto is "Get There Boys," and certainly free lots and free tickets are sure winners. When property can be obtained *free*, why should not *everyone* own real estate.

S. S. N. —— Elizabeth, N. J.

He Sold His Teeth.

A South street pawnbroker was amazed on Saturday when a poorly dressed man walked in, and, putting his right hand to his mouth, drew forth a nice looking set of false teeth, which he laid on the counter.

"Well, what is it?" gasped the pawnbroker, when he had recovered his breath.

"What can I get on 'em?" said the man carelessly, nodding toward the teeth.

"What! on your teeth?"

"Yes; on my teeth?"

"Why, man, you won't be able to eat."

"I know that."

"You do, eh?"

"Yes, perfectly. I can't get anything to eat. Consequently my teeth are of no use to me. Now, I might keep them for ornamental purposes, but being a poor man I can't afford that. Then, again, when I get angry I might indicate that such was the fact by showing my teeth, but, alas! that doesn't pay, either."

As the shades of night began to fall the two, the pawnbroker and the man, were still negotiating, the man trying to argue the superior quality of the molars and the pawnbroker persuasively proving that teeth were really a drug in the market.—[Philadelphia North American.

Milan Merry Over Wagner.

One of the most remarkable features of the carnival at Milan was the car decorated in allusion to a recent performance of Wagner's "Master Singers" at La Scala theater. The car represented a wing of the twin staircases leading to the first row of boxes. In the middle, upon a pedestal, stood a veiled flasco (flask), symbolizing the non-success of the opera. Around the pedestal were representatives of the newspapers of Milan. They wore scarfs bearing a motto taken from the criticisms of their respective journals. The representatives of the Perseveranza wore purple, with the motto "Polyphonism and Leitmotif;" of the Lombardia, Vesuvius scarlet, motto "Lift Up Your Minds;" the Secolo, red, motto "Analytical System," and so on.—[Transatlantic.

—Some of the herbs in Hall's Hair Renewer, that wonderful preparation for restoring the color and thickening the growth of the hair, grow plentifully in New England.

A Scrofulous Child

Running sores all over his body. Head a solid scab, discharging offensive matter. Bones affected and pieces discharged. Could not get up if he fell down. Could not move in bed, having no use of his hands. One of the most remarkable among the thousands of cures made by the Cuticura Remedies. N. B.—This cure was made May 9, 1885, and has remained permanent to date, Feb. 7, 1890.

Cured by Cuticura

When six months old, the left hand of our little grandchild began to swell, and had every appearance of a large boil. We poulticed it, but all to no purpose. About five months after it became a running sore. Soon other sores formed. He then had two of them on each hand, and as his blood became more and more impure, it took less time for them to break out. A sore came on the chin, beneath the under lip, which was very offensive. His head was one solid scab, discharging a great deal. This was his condition at twenty-two months old, when I undertook the care of him, his mother having died when he was a little more than a year old, of consumption (scrofula, of course). He could walk a little, but could not get up if he fell down, and could not move when in bed, having no use of his hands. I immediately commenced with the Cuticura Remedies, using all freely. One sore after another healed, a bony matter forming in each one of these five deep ones just before healing, which would finally grow loose and were taken out; then they would heal rapidly. One of those ugly bone formations I preserved. After taking a dozen and a half bottles he was completely cured, and is now, at the age of six years, a strong and healthy child.

GRANDSON HARRY LAWRENCE. Now 11 years old.

MRS. E. S. DRIGGS,
612 E. Clay St., Bloomington, Ill.

May 9, 1885.

The child was really in a worse condition than he appeared to his grandmother, who, being with him every day, became accustomed to the disease. MAGGIE HOPPING.

SEPT. 13, 1888.—No return of disease to date. E. S. D.

Your letter of inquiry in regard to the permanency of the cure by the Cuticura Remedies, of my little grandson, was duly received, and I am happy to say he remains perfectly well, and has no sores and no signs of scrofula. If he gets a cut or bruise it heals readily and the child is well. MRS. E. S. DRIGGS.

612 E. Clay St., Bloomington, Ill.

Feb. 7, 1890.

Cuticura Remedies

The above is one of the most gratifying of the thousands of cures made by the Cuticura Remedies, and is conclusive evidence that they not only cure the worst cases, but cure them for all time. Hence it is not surprising that mothers and children bless the Cuticura Remedies.

Cuticura, the great skin cure, instantly allays the most agonizing, itching, burning and inflammation, clears the skin and scalp of crusts and scales, heals ulcers and sores, and restores the hair. Cuticura Soap, the greatest of skin purifiers and beautifiers, is indispensable in treating skin diseases and baby humors. It produces the whitest, clearest skin and softest hands, free from pimples, spot or blemish. Cuticura Resolvent, the new blood and skin purifier and greatest of humor remedies cleanses the blood of impurities and poisonous elements, and thus removes the cause. Hence the Cuticura Remedies cure every species of torturing, humiliating, itching, burning, scaly and pimply disease of the skin, scalp, and blood, with loss of hair, and all humors, blotches, eruptions, sores, scales and crusts, whether simple, scrofulous or hereditary, when physicians and all other remedies fail.

Sold everywhere. Price, Cuticura, 50c.; Soap, 25c.; Resolvent, $1.00. Prepared by the Potter Drug and Chemical Corporation, Boston.

Send for "How to Cure Skin Diseases," 64 pages, 50 illustrations, and 100 testimonials, with full directions for home treatment.

PIMPLES, black-heads, red, rough, chapped and oily skin prevented by Cuticura Soap.

BABY'S Skin and Scalp purified and beautified by Cuticura Soap. Absolutely pure.

PETTICOAT SPECULATORS.

Ladies Watching With Deep Interest the Mining Stock Fluctuations.

Ladies are taking a great deal of interest in the Mining Exchange, and their interest is not wholly an unselfish one. Every day they throng the gallery reserved for them in the great hall of the exchange, and look down upon the crowd of struggling brokers in the pit with a curiosity that is not altogether idle. In Denver now, as in San Francisco in the palmy days of its famous exchange, women are noted for their "plunging" proclivities, and some of those who in the beginning were merely spectators of the business done on the Kansas City exchange are now active participants through the medium of their brokers.

"Women never have any conception of bearing a stock," said a prominent mining stock broker as he mopped his brow after the call this morning, "they always buy for an advance, and they never hedge. When they do go in on a gamble of this kind they play for a clean winning or a dead loss. No half-way, half-safe measures for them. When a woman goes in for a speculation she plays her hand clear through, and does it with more nerve than many a man is able to scratch up."

Locally interest was first excited among the ladies by Charley Taylor's purchase of the whole offering of the treasury stock of the Little Nugget, owned by a company of which Sopris is president. It was a stroke that captivated the feminine fancy by reason of the gallantry they ascribed it to, and not one of the ladies who watched the course of the stock grudged Taylor a nickel of the big profits he made when the crowd sold Little Nugget short, while he had all the stock in his pocket. But apparently that deal was the suggestive inspiration that has led to investments by some of the ladies who at first came only as curious spectators.

J. W. Humphrey, who is the broker for the Argonaut mine, this morning said to a reporter of the *Star:* "It won't be long before the ladies of Kansas City deal in mining stocks as freely as do the ladies in Denver. Within the last six days I have had six orders for Argonaut stock on their account. There was one lady who bought at 16, he above the opening price of the stock on this board, and sold the other day at 20, clearing $80 on the 2,000 shares she picked up. None of the others have done as well, but they have all made something, though the stock has dropped off a point or two. I know several of the other brokers have had orders from ladies, and I don't think one of the feminine investors has met with a loss, because nearly all the stocks have gone up a few points. Tell you them," and the accomplished broker dashed into the center of the crowd of brokers that were struggling and shouting in the pit. When he emerged from the fray he said: "I won't tell you any name, but I'll show you a fuffny letter I received yesterday." The letter read:

"Paola, Kan.—Dear Sir: Please so kind & sent me 1 share Argnot to my adiress. Tours. ——

"I inclose 10 stamps (2 cents stamps.)"

The letter was evidently written by a woman and when asked whether he had sent the one share, Mr. Humphrey evasively laughed and said: "She got back her money's worth."—[Kansas City Star.

UNCLE SAM AND COMPANY.

The Rise of the Greatest Firm the World Has Known.

A great firm, this. Can the world show a greater? We think not. Look at its God-given capital. A soil full of mineral wealth and the rich bases of agricultural prosperity; great water courses running from its agriculture and mineral centers to the sea; fountains of oil spouting up in its midst, and literally raining riches on large tracts of territory; vast forests of the finest timber in the world; all the varieties of climate necessary for the production of nearly all the products of the earth; immense inland seas affording facilities for a domestic commerce almost equal to that which its far-extended coast line secures to it on two great oceans—these are its resources, or rather a part of them; for the grand schedule cannot be compressed into a paragraph.

Then look at the firm itself. A people energetic, enterprising, self-reliant, shrewd and brave, living under a government that gives the largest scope to their capabilities. True, there have been troubles in the house at times; but the firm of Uncle Sam & Co., is a young firm and a vigorous one, and the old concerns of Europe are fast accepting the idea of its vitality and indomitability.—[New York Ledger.

The Two Bills.

Farmer's wife—What's your name?

Tramp—Bill.

Farmer's wife—Land! You ain't the Bill for the promotion of mendicancy that's been in the papers lately, be you?

Tramp (sadly)—Nome; that was a chum of mine. He was killed before he reached the house. I'm Indigent Pension Bill. You'll always know me, 'cause I'll never pass.—[Puck.

An Applied Proverb.

Burlington Free Press.

Travis—De Smith, if you loved a red-checked maiden and couldn't have her what would you do?

De Smith—Comfort myself with the Spanish proverb: When a man can not have what he loves he must love what he has.

Travis—Ah! You would have your own cheek, eh?

Then They More.

Munsey's Weekly.

"How rapidly the hands get away when 12 o'clock strikes," remarked Mr. Bullion to his partner.

"Yes," replied the latter, "that is the ate hour movement."

INGOTS FROM INGALLS

EVERY PARAGRAPH PURE GOLD.

Brilliant Comments by the Distinguished Kansas Senator Upon Public Persons and on Subjects of National Interest.

The N. Y. *World* Sunday published an extended interview with Senator Ingalls from which the following extracts are made:

"Our destiny is continental," says the senator. "The Monroe doctrine is written on every map of the United States. The tendency to absorption is irresistible. The process will be peaceful, but our northern boundary must be the Arctic circle and our southern the Isthmus canal."

* * *

What's the matter with Harrison's administration? Here's how the brilliant senator from Kansas answers the question:

"Harrison's administration has been much more successful thus far than Cleveland's was at the end of his first year. Cleveland satisfied nobody, and was openly and unsparingly denounced by his party organs. It is a great mistake for a president to suppose that by neglecting his friends he can propitiate his enemies. Cleveland got no support from the Republican party by allowing Republicans to remain in office, and he alienated many Democrats. The most formidable error of Harrison is in regarding himself bound to follow a pernicious precedent. Cleveland saw his blunder a year too late to enable him to recover. Most men are human, and prefer that reform should be tried on their enemies rather than on themselves, and if President Harrison acts on this line he will have no trouble. It is too early to predict what the verdict will be. The statistics do not exist. Two years hence will be soon enough.

"He has had a rocky time so far, but has acquitted himself with dignity, courage, and prudence. His temperament is dispassionate, and he is not sympathetic nor responsive, but his ideas are high, and I am confident that he will grow constantly in public estimation and approval."

* * *

In regard to political reforms Senator Ingalls says:

"With the possible exception of the two terms of Washington there has not been an absolutely fair, free, and impartial expression of the deliberate will of the people in any Presidential election since the foundation of the government. I doubt if there ever will be. Patronage will allure the ambitious, force will coerce the timid, demagogism will gull the credulous, fraud will rob the weak, money will buy the mercenary. The purification of politics is an irridescent dream. Government is force. Politics is a battle for supremacy. Parties are the armies. The decalogue and the golden rule have no place in a political campaign. The object is success. To defeat the antagonist and expel the party in power is the purpose. The Republicans and Democrats are as irreconcilably opposed to each other as were Grant and Lee in the Wilderness. They use ballots instead of guns, but the struggle is as unrelenting and desperate and the result sought for the same. In war it is lawful to deceive the adversary, to hire Hessians to purchase mercenaries, to mutilate, to kill, to destroy. The commander who lost a battle through the activity of his moral nature would be the derision and jest of history. This modern cant about the corruption of politics is fatiguing in the extreme."

* * *

But this is a devout age. Says the Senator:

"The age is essentially devout and religious. The mind has been largely emancipated from superstitions and from creeds, and has entered upon an excursion that cannot be foretold but that is certain to be momentous. The authority of the Church has undoubtedly been greatly weakened and impaired, but this does not imply that religion is retrograding. As the race advances it clothes God with higher attributes and dignifies him with more lofty functions, because it is capable of higher conceptions. The gloomy and inexorable God of the Puritans has disappeared. He has been succeeded by a Supreme Being of infinite mercy, tenderness, and goodness; a ruler, a lawmaker, a legislator, subject to limitations and restraints imposed by his own perfections.

"There was a profound truth in the declaration of Voltaire that if there were no God it would be necessary for man to invent one. This was flippantand irreverent, perhaps, but true. God is indispensable. Man perceives this, and the higher his development the more distinct is his perception. The popularity of Ingersoll and his school is not an indication of infidelity, but is rather the strongest evidence of the religious spirit of the time, its receptivity, its eagerness for instruction, its craving for the knowledge about what can never be known. No age has ever been so profoundly moved by the consideration of the problems of the hereafter as this, and I have no doubt that in response to the search for eternal truth another Christ will come and another revelation be made."

* * *

It is often remarked that congressmen are very poorly paid. Senator Ingalls is of opinion that $5,000 a year is about as much as the average congressman is worth.

"It is impossible for the government," he says, "to compete with private employers in compensation for special services. Legislation is not an occult science, and does not require usual faculties nor extraordinary attainments. The ordinary business of Congress can be successfully conducted by the average merchant or lawyer. It affords opportunity for the exercise of the highest powers, but good solid common sense and industry are the essentials. The government should only pay what is necessary to secure such services as are requisite for the performance of its work. Salaries should be sufficient for decent support. Politics has been the favorite pursuit for men of ambition and energy in all ages, and will probably continue to be for all to come; but no one is compelled to dedicate himself to the public service; it is voluntary, and if the conditions are unsatisfactory there is no obstacle to retirement. While it would be agreeable to receive more, my impression is that if salaries were doubled expenses would be doubled, and the result would be about the same. Probably a majority of both Houses receive as much now as they could earn in any other capacity for the same amount of work."

—Weak, nervous men! Send for sealed directions, free, of a common sense home cure, no electric nonsense, no stomach drugging. Address, Albion Pharmacy Co., Albion, Mich. Box No. 5.

Turn of the Tide.

We gently drifted with the tide—
She nestled fondly at my side,
I strove with all a lover's art
To tell the story of my heart.
I prayed that she my life would bless,
She gave to me her gracious "yes."
In heart and heart we sat and spake,
We're gently drifting with the tide.
—[Chicago Herald.

The School Question in Wisconsin.

Minneapolis Tribune.

There is not a shadow of doubt that the Republican defeat in Milwaukee will prove to have been a Pyrrhic victory for the Democrats, if the Republicans only have the pluck and courage to stand by the Bennett law.

Publishers' Column.

OUR "TEA SET" OFFER.

The Blade tea set, of which an advertisement will be found elsewhere, is not a toy tea set, but the pieces are all of full size. The shape and pattern are exclusive for THE BLADE. The material is of the best grade of American-made monstone china. The decoration is in the style now so fashionable, and as good as can be found anywhere. There are eighty pieces in the set, as follows: 12 breakfast plates, 12 tea plates, 12 cups, 12 saucers, 12 fruit or sauce dishes, 12 "individual" butter dishes, 2 cake plates, a teapot and cover, a sugar bowl and cover, a cream pitcher and a bowl.

The Toilet Set.

The toilet set is of the same kind of ware. It consists of twelve pieces, ordinary size of such articles. This set consists of a large water pitcher and wash-basin, slop-jar and cover chamber and cover, soap dish, drainer and cover, small pitcher for drinking water, mug and vase. They are packed, each set in a box, and shipped direct from the factory to the purchaser, upon our order. The box can go by freight or express, but the charges are lighter by freight, though it takes longer for it to come.

Read the advertisement and note the remarkably easy terms upon which you can obtain either of these. The conditions there given are the *only* ones on which you can get them. There never was a more useful and valuable premium given with any paper than these. THE BLADE has never made as good an off

The Household.

MISS EMILY S. BOUTON . . . . EDITOR.

HOME TALKS.

SPRING SHOPPING.

Wisdom and Folly Possible in Its Doing —Be Careful About Bargain Seeking.

IF ever one had reason to believe that this is a land flowing with milk and honey—the milk and honey being a "finger," the literal signification of which is hard cash—it is in the spring time when people begin to look around them and sum up their wants. The stores are filled with eager purchasers; beautiful goods of the latest styles, and some not of the latest, strew the counters, and salesmen and saleswomen vie with each other in showing them to the best advantage.

Human nature is never studied to better advantage than at such seasons. Perhaps I ought to say *feminine* human nature, for, excepting a few masculines scattered here and there, looking very much like the proverbial ducks out of water, the buyers are women. Among them one sees ladies, I mean those who are real, through and through, "to the manner born" ladies, and not the pinchbeck, gold washed imitation which are also apt to be numerous in such a place; stylish women, and those who look as if they had just emerged from the ark; gentle, timid women, and the pushing, jostling, get-out-of-the-way kind, who go as if storming a fort; the woman who always has a keen eye for a bargain, and she who can be beaten out of her shekels by any one disposed to betray her confidence; the decided-at-sight individual, and the wavering, vacillating creature who never knows what she wants, and finally decides in sheer desperation—one finds all of these different types of individuals and many more.

THE BEST PLACE OF ALL.

The place of all others to discover the real person that is concealed in its garments of flesh is in the store when the goods are selling off at cost. Ye gods and little fishes, what scenes! It is only a few weeks since there was a sale of that kind here in Toledo. Crowds gathered and filled the walk in front of the store, before it was opened. They stood in the cold storm and waited as if life depended upon their getting inside in the very beginning, and when at last the doors swung back, what a rush was there my countrymen! To those who looked on from the outside, it verily seemed as if some one must be crushed into mince meat. And when the store was packed, *absolutely* packed, and still the crowd surged forward, the doors were closed, and scores of disappointed ones were left to chew the cud of blasted hopes in the chilly air outside.

The inside, I am told by those who were there, was a curiosity. Crowding, pushing, fighting their way, the throng, generally good-natured as American crowds usually are, gathered in their bargains. (?) In front of some counters they would stand close as packed sardines, reaching over to call for what they wanted, anxious and perturbed lest they lose their chance, remaining there an hour in this struggling mass, and at the end perhaps, find they had made a saving of fifty cents or a dollar at most. The wonder was that those behind the counters did not become maniacs.

I said that it was a good place to study human nature. It was an unfortunate one in some respects, for the most inordinate greed and selfishness came to the surface. Persons whose outward garb was that of ladies lost all semblance of courtesy to those near them. Consideration for others seemed with these, one of the lost arts. Watching the scene, especially from the vantage ground of indifference as to bargains, and the longing for halycon days when shopping should be done as described in Bellamy's "Looking Backward" grew strong and insistent.

ORDINARY SPRING SHOPPING.

Fortunately, this sort of thing is only occasional. Ordinary spring shopping does not involve such a tree fight, but can be conducted with more regard for conventialities. One piece of advice I would like to give, however, before leaving this part of the subject: Show your wisdom by staying away from these places unless you know exactly what you want. Then keep cool. Do not permit yourself to get excited over a chance to buy goods at what you imagine is much less than the ordinary price, for if you do, in nine cases out of ten, you will get something which you do not need, and find that you have spent the money reserved for a necessary purchase. I should not be afraid to hazard a considerable sum upon the assertion that three-fourths of the people who frequent "sales" and auctions go home with things which meet their sad gaze from bureau drawers and trunks for months and perhaps years afterward. And it is more than likely that they will find the same articles purchasable in fresh, new goods, at the same or less price, when the time comes that they do want something of that kind.

It is wisdom to keep away from such places unless, as I said before, you know just what you are seeking, because there is an atmosphere of excitement that will have its effect. You do not want to get into such an influence. You find yourself in a state of exhaustion ere long which is perhaps inexplicable to you, but it is really that coming from exposure to these currents of restless, covetous thought, which beat against you and exhaust you ur ener gies.

TWO WAYS TO SHOP.

Ordinary shopping, conducted outside of these excitements, may be done wisely or foolishly. One woman goes with a clear well-defined idea of what and how much she wants. She passes from counter to counter, looking carefully and critically at what she sees, admiring the more costly goods, but deaf to all representations or inducements to spend more than she has decided that she can afford. She goes home satisfied, and her dreams are unbroubled with any question of ways and means out of a debt or difficulty.

The other starts out with a rather hazy outline of her necessities and her wants, though she does know that her purchases must be limited. The "loves of things" which she sees tempts her beyond her strength. A dollar or two here and there makes little difference, she thinks, and then to her dismay, she finds the sum total is equal to her whole store, and she has not yet bought all of her necessities. Then, unless she has some way of replenishing her exhausted finances, what worry of mind must be gone through before her affairs are straightened again.

Another thing. Do not, unless compelled by the purse-holder, run up a bill, with the idea of paying it in the future. Bills always take malicious delight in putting in an appearance when it is the hardest to meet them. And they grow into such mammoth proportions by what seems to you such small accretions. They appear to "mump themselves" in order to overwhelm you with their size, and nine chances in ten, you are, for the time, hopelessly overwhelmed.

There is such a thing as shopping skillfully. It is a fine art, that of knowing what you want, of being able to judge wisely as to the quality and the worth of goods, of being so self-controlled as not to be carried into extravagancies, or tempted by bargains. It is an art that can be acquired, and every woman should study it sufficiently to enable her to be just to herself and to others. And then, when it is not an absolute impossibility, *pay as you go.*

Emily S. Bouton.

ONE MORE.

ANOTHER candidate for favor in fancy work is the immense cup of the Burr-oak, a novelty to many BLADE readers and familiar to as many more.

Yes, yes! you do think of it now, you frontier women and girls in lonely haunts of nature, longing, often hopelessly, for pin money to purchase the "novelties" of the shopping-catalogues; wishing for the magic gift of making something from nothing.

Very well—select the largest specimen—a canary could nest in some of them—free them of dust, get them under subjection of wire and cord, threaded through the stem-section, gild them, or varnish them, or leave them as the trees tosses them down to you, hook them to many a useful end for holding the vast orders of run-away mites, and with small cost, you can delight yourself and your friends who are dwellers in lands where burr-oaks do not grow.

But when you concoct the inevitable and most commendable pin cushion do, I pray you, in remembrance of the writer, cover it with some sort of goods that will admit the pin without suggesting painfully the necessity of a tack hammer. Truly, I have looked with dumb grief upon many a cushion, stiff and cold, and unfriendly to the pin as a boarding-house mattress is to the shoulders of a spinster. I have looked, and maliciously gloated over my imagination of the time when dust without and moth within would leave but splendid wrecks. And if you must, *must* have your realms of satin and velvet and beads and bravery, leave, I pray you, a little oasis somewhere, to be blanketed with flannel or cashmere, and when I am your guest, you will joy to hear me say: "That just meets my idea of things as they were before the fall." KARA KANAWHA.

FANCY WORK AND HOUSE DECORATION.

PRETTY DOILIES.—Draw the pattern of a large leaf or have it stamped upon white linen. Then buttonhole the edge with white silk, and vein it with the same. Cut it out when finished, and the result is a very unique doily.

CUSHION COVER.—Get a piece of linen a little narrower than the width of the cushion and twice as long. Make an insertion finish around the edge, and embroider or etch a conventional pattern adown the center. Make button holes across the ends, and tie the cover on by ribbons passed through them.

Another pretty cushion cover is a square of white linen with open-work embroidery through which the color of the silk or plush shows delightfully. The edge is formed by bows at the four corners, it being put on diamond wise, that is the four points coming to the middle of each of the four sides of the cushion.

PATTERN FOR CROSS-STITCH ON GINGHAM.—The first part is the vine, and is to be worked across the cloth first, and the leaves afterward. Work from top of hem. Holding the bottom of the goods to you, work 1 to the left; count 7 dark checks toward the top; work 5 to the left. Miss 1 in next row, work 1 toward the top. Miss 1 in next row to left and work 1 toward top, which should be in 7th row to left from commencing, and 24 row toward the top. Work 4 to left, making 5 in this row, miss 1 and work 1 toward the bottom; miss 1 and work 1 toward bottom, which should be on row commenced on. Repeat across the goods.

SECOND PART.—Commence on same row and at the end of the first 5 worked, miss 2 and work 2 to the left. 1 to left, and toward the bottom, and work 5 to the right. On next row to right, and toward the bottom work 4 to the left, miss 2 to the ef , and in row to the bottom work 6 to the right. Work 2 to left, miss 1, work 2. In next row to left and toward bottom, work 2, miss 3, work 1 to the right. In next row toward bottom, miss 5 and work 1 to left, which finishes first leaf. Commence next leaf where row of 5 ends and work toward the top.—MRS. M. CAREY.

PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS FOR DECORATIVE PAINTING.—Lilacs on Black Ebonized Panel.—Pattern No. 308, size 12x16 in., is used to stamp this design. Lay your pattern on the panel with the rough side of the perforations up, or towards you. Have some one to hold your pattern firmly in place for you while you rub the stamping pad and rub over the perforations, taking more powder as occasion requires. When you have gone over all the lines lift up lower left hand corner of the pattern to see if impression is all taken; if not, let pattern go back to place and rub on a little more powder. To set the stamping hold your panel in front of a moderate fire for two minutes or more, if the fire is hot, it will injure the panel.

RECIPE FOR WHITE STAMPING POWDER.—One oz white lead, ½ oz. white sugar, 1 teaspoonful of corn starch, ½ oz gum arabic in fine powder, ½ oz. white rosin in fine powder; all well mixed.

I give this in answer to numerous postal card requests. On muslin or cloth of any kind lay soft paper over the impression and rub with a moderately hot iron. Muslin will bear more heat than cloth. For plush, velvet, silk and satin hold the wrong side of the goods next the fire until the stamping is set. To make a blue powder for light goods, add Prussian blue paint in dry power to enough of the white mixture to give a clear blue color.

The following material will be needed to paint your panel: One bottle naile drying oil, one No. 2, one No. 2, No 3 and 5 red sable artists' brushes, and the following tube oil colors: One tube rose madder; 1 tube cobalt blue; 1 tube kremnitz white; 1 tube chrome green; 1 tube light zinnaber green; 1 tube lemon yellow. The drying oil is to be used in each shade of paint you mix, but use it sparingly; just enough to blend the paints smoothly if you live where you cannot get pure drying oil, go to a druggist's and get five cents worth of linseed oil and the same quantity of turpentine. To the half of the oil add all the turpentine. This will make a very good mixer if well shaken before using it. First mix up a little pure white and paint your buds, blossoms, stems, etc., with this. Apply your color very smoothly, and let it dry before retouching in the natural shades. For the leaves and stems mix two shades of green—one of chrome to which a little each of lemon yellow and chrome has been added, one of zinnaber green and a little chrome mixed. For the lilac blossoms proper make up three shades —one of white, to which a very little each of cobalt blue and rose madder has been added; one full shade, and just enough rose madder to make a rich purple. Then for another shade add to this enough white to make a delicate purple or lilac tint. Blend in your different shades carefully, retouching until all is smooth and the effects of light and shade are good. Another pretty panel pattern is No. 388, pink geraniums, size 12x16.—MRS. E. S. L. THOMPSON.

KNITTING AND CROCHETING.

Knitting Abbreviations—k, knit; p, purl or seam; p 2 tog, purl two together; n, narrow; s and b, slip and bind; t to, throw thread over; k, bind; o, over; sl, slip; m, make.

Crocheting Abbreviations—ch, loop; s c, single crochet; d c, double crochet; ch st, chain stitch; el ch st, close chain stitch; d ch st, double chain stitch; p, picot; r c, ribbed crochet; c t st, crossed treble stitch; sh st, shell stitch; o s st, open shell stitch; tr, treble; sh c, short crochet.

WHEAT EAR LACE.—Cast on 15 stitches. 1st row—o—p 2 tog—k 2—t t o—p 2 tog—o—p 2 tog—k 2—t t o—p 2 tog—o—p 2 tog—o—k 1; 2d row—all plain but the last 2—t t o—p 2 tog; 3d row—o—p 2 tog—k 3—t t o—p 2 tog—t t o—p 2 tog—k 2—t t o—p 2 tog—t t o—p 2 tog—t t o—k 1; 4th and all even rows like 2d; 5th row—o—p 2 tog—k 4—t t o—p 2 tog—t t o—p 2 tog—k 2—t t o—p 2 tog—t t o—p 2 tog—t t o—k 1; 7th row—o—p 2 tog—k 5—t t o—p 2 tog—t t o—p 2 tog—k 2—t t o—p 2 tog—t t o—p 2 tog—t t o—k 1; 9th row—o—p 2 tog—k 6—t t o—p 2 tog—t t o—p 2 tog—k 2—t t o—p 2 tog—t t o—p 2 tog—t t o—k 1; 11th row—o—p 2 tog—k 7—t t o—p 2 tog—t t o—p 2 tog—k 2—t t o—p 2 tog—t t o—p 2 tog—t t o—k 1; 12th row—Bind off 6 stitches—k 12—t t o—p 2 tog. This finishes one point; two points will show the full design or ear of wheat; t t o means in this pattern thread twice over.—LUCY O. FREEMAN.

CROCHET WHEEL.—These wheels are pretty and may be joined by crocheting the picots together while making them, or you may sew them together if you wish after they are made. I am making a yoke out of them, and it is thought to be very pretty: Ch 8—join—5 ch—(3 of them take the place of a tr)—1 tr in circle * 2 ch—1 tr in circle * Repeat 5 times more, or till you have 7 1—ch 2—1 s c on 3 of 5 ch; 2d row—1 s c on every st of last row—3d row—ch 10—miss 2 st—1 tr in next *—ch 7—miss 2—1 tr on next *—repeat 5 times —ch 7—s c on 4th of 10 ch; 4th row—3 s c on ch—1 picot—4 ch—2 s c—1 picot —2 s c—1 picot—3 s c—r peat from * to * on each of the remaining loops. This completes one wheel. I hope this is plain. MINNOSA, Kansas.

CORRESPONDENCE.

NOT DRUDGERY.—A Leaf from Mrs. N.'s Diary.—June 20. To-day, I went over four miles to attend our social. Several of us went by train and had a delightful time. Met a very sensible friend who was making a shirt for one of her boys. Said she always hemmed by hand, as she preferred it, which led us to talk of buying shirts ready made.

She remarked that she could not understand how shirts could be sold so cheaply, now-a-days. "Of course, it does not pay to make them, only it is a matter of convenience sometimes, and I love to," but for the life of her, she could not see how any woman could earn her the necessities of living, at the low wages of shirtmaking, and live an upright and honest life, said she did not see why it was that wage-women did not seek to do housework where they could have a good home with board. Their wages would be for clothing only, and perhaps sufficient for privileges and luxuries in some cases.

I replied that I supposed it was the drudgery of washing dishes and general kitchen work that deterred them. They thought sewing so much nicer, cleaner and respectable.

"Drudgery," said she, "I used to think it so, too, but now I have learned to like the work of the kitchen, even to like the washing of dishes. I consider it one of the duties God has given me to do, and as such, I enjoy doing it, to the best of my knowledge, using skill, soap and hot water, with good drying towels, and putting up the dishes in an attractive and artistic way, thus loving my work because I love my family and because God in his providence has given me this to do."

I do think, however, that housewives allow their work to pile up in an unmethodical way and so become very much discouraged; for instance, after baking in the morning, they let the dishes and baking tins accumulate, until after dinner when, with the dinner work, on a hot day they feel almost exhausted by the time they get through. Now, I always wash up my baking utensils just as soon as I get through with them, thus avoiding having to scrape and soak, a process very trying to one's patience as well as to the tins. I find there is nothing quite so helpful in housekeeping as method and a love for the work.

If one rises late in the morning everything has to be done hastily to get through, consequently the day proves tiresome and unsatisfactory, but, having a time for everything, and each thing in its time, not only allows for the unexpected interruptions, but gives one the pleasant satisfaction of having the house—where mine is—in quiet—in pleasant order, and also gives spare time for leisure, which may be profitably spent in resting, caring for the dear children, improving her own mind, or socially if she so inclines."

THE MISERY OF AN OLD MAID.—Why is it that a girl cannot live unmarried without being twitted and insulted at almost every place, and by almost every one because she is an old maid? Is there any harm in it? or is it a disgrace? if there *is*, I should like to know it, as I desire to do right as I go through this world. I may be thought very sensitive on the subject; but when I am spoken of as "that old maid," as old songs do to other human beings.

There are in this world who have nothing but a sneer of contempt for a woman who is not married, when they themselves are not fit to live with, but they think it a woman's duty to "cling" to some one, even if she has to wash to get something for him to eat, while he is loafing around on store boxes and squirting tobacco juice over the pavement. Then she should meet such a husband with a smile and make home as attractive as possible, all to keep from being an "old maid." It doesn't worry an old maid half as much to know she is one as others worry her about it. I often think how glad I would be if I could go anywhere and stay a few hours without having that the main topic of conversation, with a few "cats" and a little "catnip tea" thrown in occasionally for flavoring.

A lady acquaintance of mine once made the remark that she "would rather marry a tramp than be an old maid;" but in less than a year she was almost tearing her hair and wishing she was free, as she had come to the conclusion that her desirable (?) "nubby" cared more for somebody else than him. Some one how I could not feel very sorry for her.

There are a great many people in this world who will not admit that an old maid ever "had a chance" to marry, because as they took the first offer themselves, they think everybody else must do the same. I think if a girl can find a companion who is worthy of her, and can better her condition, she will be happier married, but she should never marry to keep from being "an old maid."

I had rather drink enough catnip tea to fill the reservoir above Johnstown, and have three hundred cats about the house, and wash to support them for their company and their music than one old tobacco tub called "a man" who was not worthy of one. I am not far from 36 years of age and not ashamed of it. My teeth are all good, and I have but one gray hair in my head, and no wart on the end of my nose. My intention is to marry the first chance I have, which suits me, and I am constantly on the lookout, but if do not get an offer to suit me, Gabriel will find me still looking for it, if I live till he toots.—ADDIE VANCE.

ABOUT THE DAUGHTERS.—I was so pleased with the correspondence from "A Mother" that I must add my mite. I am so glad that some one is on my side in the question. I was one of those children who always want to go some where; yet I never teased to go. Mother always told me to "ask father," and he was a man who thought (evidently) that if children were at home, they were sure to be where they were wanted, and since I have four of my own, I have come to be like him, only more so, if possible. It seems to me some mothers must be very thoughtless, or want to get as much as possible from their neighbors, to go to spend the day and take three or four children along. Being of a very nervous temperament and having poor health, I have been almost worried sick with such visiting, when I would have enjoyed the mother's company if she had left part of the babies at home. And, as for letting children go to stay all night with schoolmates, it's ridiculous, when they are together five days in the week. I think they are better off at home, especially as most mothers need their help morning and evening, and every mother knows how nearly impossible it is to get help from children when schoolmates came to stay all night.

Neither do I allow my oldest daughter to attend parties and suppers unless for some other woman act as chaperon. I have seen so much of the ill effects of young girls, 14 or 15 years old, going out alone that I have almost got to be a crank on the subject. Oh mothers! Guard your girls from temptation. "Save the Girls," else, where will the future women come from? —ANN.

CORRESPONDENCE CLIPPINGS.

I have read several articles in THE BLADE to girls, about who they should go with, and the articles always end by saying that girls should not go with young men who drink, and of course I say so, too. I can say that I never saw but one drunken man in my life, and I am now past 17, and have always lived in towns that had at least 1,500 inhabitants. This place has not had a billiard hall in it for over four years, and has had no dances, until this winter, for over three years. Do you not see what Prohibition has done for Kansas?

I would like to have some one tell me what they think of girls carrying on a correspondence with unknown young men. I know several who do, and I would like to know the general opinion on the subject.—ETOLA G.

If we would only stop and consider of how little importance our "baking and brewing," our crocheting, "crazy patch," painting, etc., is, compared to "The good we all may do, while the days are going by."

We know the days are "passing by," and very soon some of us will sit with folded hands, hands that are too feeble to work and eyes that have grown too dim to follow the latest stitch in fancy work. We will have time to then think. We will wonder if our living has been in vain. But the days will be almost gone, our thoughts will come too late. Now is the time to think, now is the time to act. Shall we not all resolve, God helping us, to improve every opportunity we may find of doing good? Shall we not strive to live less for ourselves, and more for others?

Shall we not try to have more charity for our fellow beings? Shall we remember:

"There's no time for idle scorning,
While the days are going by.
All the loving links that bind us,
While the days are going by,
One by one we leave behind us,
While the days are going by."

—E. P. K.

INQUIRIES.

Will some one give some simple remedy to prevent the hair from falling out and cause a new growth? Also a remedy for clearing the complexion?—LITTLE MOUNTAIN MAID.

Will some one send directions for making hairguards?—JENNIE.

Mrs. John E. Snyder wishes some one to send full instructions for crystalizing glasses.

Will some one give a good recipe for making bread?—GEORGE MAESCH, Oregon.

This has been given many times, but as bread is the staff of life, room may be found for it once more.—ED.

Will "Amarillis" send directions for using hickory-nut oil, to prevent the hair from falling out?—MARY.

Will some one tell me what to do with my Chinese sacred lilies, after they have bloomed, and how soon they will bloom again?—MRS. A. W. W.

Will some one inform me how I can obtain a pair of large, dark buffalo horns?—SCOTCH THISTLE.

Will some one tell me if large flowers, such as calla lily or pond lily or morning glory, can be made of wax, or if you would have to get heavier wax, how could you get it? I have never heard of any. I should be pleased to have directions.—MRS. A. FERRY, Iowa.

Will some one who has a rule for making either light or dark impression paper, such as is used in stamping outfits, send it to the HOUSEHOLD?—OLD SUBSCRIBER.

Will the sister who has the directions for making a "boa" please send them to the HOUSEHOLD?—LOIS.

Any person having any temperance works or cards to spare, and wanting to assist the cause in Northern Utah, will confer a favor by sending same to H. J. Peterson, Drawer G, Smithfield, Cache county, Utah.

ANSWERS TO INQUIRIES.

"Nydia."—The gentleman should always be the one to ask for a correspondence, and the lady should be very slow to grant such a favor, except to a very dear, or intimate gentleman friend.—ED.

M. L. G. M.—Unless you are engaged to the gentleman, or have some elderly female companion, it would not be proper for you invite him to take supper with you. A young girl who is alone in the world, as you say you are, cannot be too careful to avoid doing anything that can cause unpleasant remarks.—ED.

Lulu B. Kelsey.—The editor is much obliged for your good opinion of her, and is quite certain that a smart little girl like you, can overcome the habit of "stooping," without any artificial aid, if you will bear in mind the evil effects that will result from so doing, and immediately straighten your back and shoulders when ever you find yourself making a bow of your back. Try it for a month and see if you are not helped.—ED.

To paper walls that have been whitewashed. "Size" your walls first. For a room 12x15 ft. get 1 lb. of best glue, and melt in water sufficient to wet the walls. Apply with a white-wash brush, let dry, and then put on the paper, putting a small quantity of the melted glue in the paste. If directions given are followed the paper will stay as fast as if it had grown there.—H. B. K.

"Lulu Hendricks," the HOUSEHOLD is glad to have pretty patterns of any kind. It is difficult to give you just the limit of a knitting pattern, if you notice those that usually appear you can judge for yourself what is liked.—ED.

If Mrs. L. L. Schooler will dampen the crust of her bread as it comes from the oven with a little water or use butter, it puts a soft crust over it, for bread cloth until cold, she will have soft bread crust; and if Mrs. M. M. L. will soak her fruit before stirring it into her cake she will have no trouble.—KITTY.

Please say through the HOUSEHOLD that Mrs. Morris sends thanks to "Pelican" for the hints about celluloid. They are very plain, and the articles extremely pretty made that way.

MAY FLOWERS, any art store in a city can supply you. Get some daily paper and look over the advertisements. Send to the *Art Interchange*, New York city, for information in regard to manual. That paper would be a help to you.—ED.

A" Subscriber," Rossville—Custard pie, cream pie, etc., should be eaten with a fork, with which you should also cut it.

If you are a guest for a single meal, you should not fold your napkin, but lay it by your plate without folding. If you are staying for several meals, it is proper to fold it, especially if a ring is furnished.

Bite off your cake and cookies, or break them piece by piece as you like it.

Pass your fruit seeds with a pick, and carry them to your mouth on that or with your fingers.

Drink tea from the side of the spoon.

It is not considered etiquette to help a gentleman on with his overcoat unless he is old or an invalid.

Say, "Will you be seated?"

Whether it is proper to go to church in the evening with a young man alone depends largely upon the customs of the community in which you live.—ED.

RECIPES.

GINGER COOKIES.—One cupful of brown sugar; 2 cupfuls of molasses; 2 tablespoonfuls of vinegar; 8 tablespoonfuls of hot water; 1 tablespoonful of ginger; 1 tablespoonful of saleratus; 1 cupful of butter, or half butter and half fried meat fat; a little salt.—MRS. PEARL.

TOMATO SOUP—(Aunt Hat's).—One qt. of boiling tomatoes; salt to taste; add ½ teacupful of butter and a teaspoon sugarly rounded full of soda and stir thoroughly; add now 1 qt. of sweet milk and 1 qt. of hot water; bring all to a boil and serve with crackers.

Instead of custard pie I make this: One tablespoonful of flour stirred with sugar, and 1 egg, 3 tablespoonfuls thick sweet cream, 1 of sour cream. This is excellent flavor and can be kept several days as the crust will not become soft. Enough milk to fill is added of course.—MRS. A. E. T. TAYLOR.

CURE FOR BURNS.—My cure for burns is this: An application of raw potato scraped and wet in a few minutes repeat.—MRS. A. E. T. TAYLOR.

MARBLE CAKE.—Light part, 1 cupful white sugar; ½ cupful butter; ½ cupful sweet milk; heaping teaspoonful of baking powder; whites of 4 eggs; 2½ cupfuls flour. Dark part, 1 cupful molasses; ½ cupful butter; ½ cupful sour milk; ½ teaspoonful soda; 1 teaspoonful cream of tartar; yolks of 4 eggs; 2¾ cupfuls of flour; ½ teaspoonful each of cloves, cinnamon, allspice and nutmeg; drop spice yarns as you put in the pans.—MRS. JOHN HORNING.

HAIR INVIGORATOR, (to prevent hair falling out).—Sage, 4 ozs.; macerate in a pound of unsalted, unworked butter, fresh from the churn. Strain and perfume, and apply to the scalp twice a week. In 15 to 15 hours after application it were well to wash with castile soap of some good shampoo material.

STANDARD LINIMENT.—Gum camphor, turpentine, aqua ammonia, each 2 ozs.; oil origanum, oil of spikenard, oil of hemlock, olive oil and gum quiac, each 1 oz.; alcohol, 1 pt. MIX. Apply only externally. Apply to the swollen parts, thoroughly rubbing in, whether of rheumatism, stinga, sprains, or over internally affected parts.

BLACKBERRY ROOT SYRUP.—Blackberry root, 4 ozs.; cinnamon, cloves and nutmeg, of each 1 drachm. Simmer in a quart of water about an hour. Strain off hot and add 2 lbs. of sugar. Cool and add an ounce of brandy. For diarrheal symptoms, take from ¼ of a teaspoonful to a tablespoonful, according to age.

Our Young Folks.

BLADE TEMPERANCE LEGION.

MOTTO: "Of Ourselves We Will be Masters."

Pledge:

We do hereby promise ourselves that, from this time until we are 21 years old, we will not taste intoxicating liquors of any kind, and that we will exert all our influence to prevent their use by others. Witness our names:

WESTVILLE, IND.

Elsie Dodd,	Edd Springer,
Clarence Dodd,	Carrel Arndt,
Charlie Barnard,	Willie Springer,
Jennie Barnard,	Annie Arndt,
Blanche Dodd,	Tilda Frier,
Leslie Dodd,	Goldie Barnard,
Ira Barnard,	Bertha Frier,
Lora Dodd,	Clara Springer.

ARMINGTON, ILL.

Mary M. Robbins,	Lizzie Patterson,
Eva M. Barnes,	Chester A. Robbins,
Rella J. Barnes,	Wilber O. Robbins,
Jessie L. Robbins,	Charles C. Patterson,
Hester Robbins,	Ambrose Patterson.

WOODVILLE, IND.

Charlie Stanley,	Ottie Mitchell,
Bruce Stanley,	Willie Chambers,
Delbert Mitchell,	Willie Williams.

MEDICINE LODGE, KANS.

Sallie Collins,	Kirk Collins,
	Maggie Collins.

Names this week, 35. Total, 29,245.

The above embraces all names received up to April 18.

For the Young Folks.

"WHAT IS IT, MAMMA?"

KARA KANAWHA.

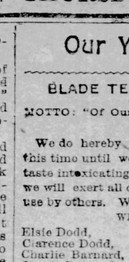
Nests of yellow chick-a-biddies,
Peeking in their shells;
Swarms of long, brown bee-buzzles,
Stirring in their cells;
Chubby buds of blossoms, peeping
Out in sheltered dells—
This is spring.
Sweet wondering.
Waiting here for want of wing.

Little winds that toss and flutter,
Wishing they may fly;
Hosts and hosts of baby-sunbeams,
Flocking down the sky;
Pretty clouds, like poppy-petals,
Drifting up on high—
This is spring.
Sweet wondering.
Crowned with spungold, ring on ring.

Snowy lambs upon the pasture;
Blossoms on the tree;
Robins nesting; gray doves cooing;
Brooklets dashing free.
And your blue eyes full of questions,
Looking up to me;—
This is spring.
Sweet wondering.
At my bosom—mamma's king!

THE DIFFICULTY OF A DARLING.

MRS. L. B. WALFORD.



IT was only that she had been forgotten—but that was the hardest part of all.

If it had been explained to the little nine-year-old Josephine that grandpa had been unable to bestow his customary birthday half-sovereign, Josephine, who was a reasonable child, and quite equal to comprehending serious questions when properly set before her, would merely have nodded her curly head, blinked her blue eyes, and acquiesced without a murmur. But as it was the blue eyes filled with tears, and a terrible desolation took possession of the little girl's soul. This half-sovereign was to her the great event of the year. At other times sixpences and shillings—and these at long intervals—were the largest sums of money which found their way to her little wooden money-box, and from grandpapa's having hitherto been so regular with his golden coin, his small receipient had not unnaturally learned to count upon it among the presents of the day.

On the birthday with which our story opens, these presents had been exceptionally handsome, for so youthful a personage in so poor a family—for the family was poor, and the home somewhat dingy and threadbare—and Josephine's little heart had bounded with pleasure and gratitude; there had been a cabinet, elaborately carved and carpentered by his own hands, from one brother, and a folding screen—likewise home-made and very carefully made—from another. But what had rejoiced the young queen of the day still more than either, had been a lovely pink-and-white embroidered frock, entirely the work of one pair of fingers, and those the dearest in the world to her; she had absolutely screamed with delight when Nancy had unfolded the silver paper in which it was wrapped.

Nancy was not only Josephine's elder and only sister—she stood towards her in the place of a mother; for both had been left motherless.

Josephine worshipped Nancy; no one was like her pretty, sprightly Nancy; no one could invent, and surprise, and achieve as Nancy could; no one would take the amount of trouble for other people that Nancy would. To think of Nancy's having sat up night after night when all the family had gone to bed, in order to have all that fairy-like edging and trimming done just as finely and evenly as it ought to be, and every stitch and turn and seam so beautifully finished off as she would liked to have her own dresses if she could. Nancy could not have what she liked in that way—it was but seldom that she could have a nice new dress at all—but Josey's should be fit for any little princess.

All of this Josey had comprehended to her heart's core; and presently she had resolved to make Nancy such a return for all these delightful things, and trimmings, those pinchings and ruffl ngs, as should open her sister's eyes very wide indeed. She had meant to spend the whole of grandpapa's customary donation upon Nancy—Nancy should be the delighted recipient of —she knew not what. Thereafter she had been on the tip-toe of excitement until grandpapa should have come and gone.

And now, as the door closed behind his retreating figure, and Josephine heard the bump bump of his stick going down the steps outside, she stood stock-still in the place where she had said "good-by," struggling to repress the workings of a rosy mouth that would quiver, and to keep large gathering water-drops from splashing over on to a neck redder than it should have been. For Josephine, as we have said, had been forgotten.

Never before had such a thing happened. The bright little piece of gold had never once failed to make its appearance along with the "good-by" kiss and "God bless you, my dear," as its donor took his departure. Every birthday of the preceding eight had seen the little, old-fashioned one-horse carriage deposit the old gentleman in time for the mid-day birthday dinner of his youngest grandchild, and as regularly hear him away when the meal was over. Before going Josephine would help him on with his great coat, fetch him his hat, stick and gloves, and then—see him pull out his purse. It was a netted, green silk purse, and you would find the little girl down when she was coming, had a very shyness and consciousness she would have been fain to run away and hide herself at this juncture if she could have done so. But when it was all well over, and the front door shut, who so happy as the little girl left within?

Thenceforth were what ponderings and wonderings, what delicious huggings of secret plots and plans, what grand pretense of there being nothing in the wind, nothing whatever to be mysterious and important and responsible about! Of course neither her father, nor St. John, nor Edmund, nor yet Nancy could possibly know anything! Of course they were perfectly overwhelmed with joy and amazement when Christmas morning—which was exactly a fortnight after Josephine's birthday—produced four parcels, one for each member of the family, "with Josey's love." Only to think that those beautiful, those magnificent gifts had come from little Josey! And to think, moreover, that they should happen to be exactly the very things that everybody wanted, and that nobody was able to get! To be sure, now that she thought of it, now that Josey reminded them, St. John did recollect that he had let fall something about a good, strong knife, and Edmund had remarked that a box of paints was a good thing to have; while Nancy had allowed that a certain shop in the village had warm, lined gloves wonderfully cheap, and that the aforementioned shop was to be depended upon. But how clever Josephine had been to pick it all up! And how dear and kind to spend so much on them! And—most wonderful of all! wherever had she obtained the money? The fiction of ignorance and mystification had been the triumph of the whole.

Now alas! grandpapa had forgotten her! What was to be done? Confide her difficulty and dilemma to any one she could not. She could not seek anywhere for sympathy and advice. She, who had at no time let fall a suggestion as to the source of her annual riches and her magnificent benefactions; she firmly believed that not a human being in or about the place had divined it!

And yet did not such a disclosure stare her in the face when she was left alone within the little hall (it had always been tacitly understood that grandpapa and Josey had their parting scenes by themselves), and when the carriage was already driving away from the door? The present for Nancy, too! The little chubby fingers clutched themselves over the dimpled palm, as if hoping against hope to feel the accustomed treasure within. She had thought of such a present for Nancy! She had found out (and this time it had really been finding out) that Nancy was as much in trouble as her cheery, buoyant nature permitted her to be about trifles, on the score of—what do you think?—a pair of ball shoes. Nancy was going to a ball in a fortnight's time, and had shaken her head ruefully over the old pair of white satin slippers which lay in a corner of the large wardrobe drawer of what had been their mother's room. "They must do," she had said; "they have just got to do, so there is no more to be said about them—but I wish, I do wish I could have had a nice new pair."

Now Josephine knew where there was a "nice new pair" to be had, namely, at the identical shop in the village which had on the preceding year furnished the fur-lined gloves; and though some of you smart young ladies who read this may not think that ten shillings would purchase a pair of satin slippers for your delicate feet to trip in, I do assure you that down in the out-of-the-way part of the country where Josephine lived, ten shillings was quite a long price for such articles, and Josey would have commanded much respect had she gone in and paid it. This she had made up her mind to do; she would privately borrow the old pair for a pattern size, and she would do violence to the ancient traditions of the family in so far that the purchase should be presented on the evening of the festivity, namely, Christmas eve, instead of being treasured up to be laid on the breakfast-plate the next day.

All of this Josey had carefully thought out; and I beseech you now to reflect upon what must have been the bitterness of the poor little generous-hearted girl's disappointment as her house of cards tumbled to the ground. What could she do? What could she do? All the rest of the day she went about repeating those words to herself, the while she strove with all her might to conceal from every eye that anything was wrong.

And before night the reward had come. She had hit upon an idea.

* * * * * * * * *

"The only thing I mind is leaving my dear little birdie behind, and on Christmas Eve, too," cried Nancy's bright voice, a fortnight later. It was the evening of the ball, and the sisters were together in Nancy's room, where was a great fire, and candles on the dressing-table, and a scent of sweet, fresh flowers, with which Nancy was adorning herself; while festal garments strewed the room, and everything had a joyful, unaccustomed confusion. "If we had not to take such a long drive, and if the roads were not so wet and heavy, we need not have started so soon," she went on. "But we shall have to be off in half an hour now, Josey. Well, never mind, Josey. Things that can't be cured must be endured, mustn't they? We two, as a couple of philosophers, you and I—come along, philosopher," and the speaker, all glowing, and mischievous, and sparkling and brimming over with spirits, suddenly caught up her small companion in her arms, and whirled her round and round the little apartment till both were out of breath with laughing. Surely it was something more than merely going to the neighboring festivity that was making the heart of the one dance in her bosom.

"How you do like going to-night, Nancy!" said Josephine, with a child's half reproachful wonder at such frivolty. "I had no idea you would like it so much. And I am rather sorry, because"— She stopped short.

"Because, why, you naughty one? Because your poor, fond sister, thine own Nancy, who never grudged thee a treat, is going to have a treat—oh, such a treat herself to-night"—

"Oh, no; no, it was not that, Nancy."

"Everybody is going to be so good to you, darling," pursued Nancy, more seriously. "You are going to have such a good supper; you don't know what, but it is all ordered, and it is something you like very much indeed, I ordered on purpose; and Bell has promised to give it you in the nice, bright kitchen—all hung with holly, you know—and she says she and Hannan will play games with you afterwards. And I have allowed Bell to invite her little niece"—

"Sarah Jane?"

"Yes, Sarah Jane; so you can have 'blind-man' or anything you like, afterwards."

"

Talmage's Sermon.

HE TALKS ON THE DIVINE HEALER.

Christ as a Surgeon and the Wonderful Cures Which He Performed in Every Branch of Medical Science—He Is Also the Great Curer of the Soul.

BROOKLYN, April 20.—The audiences Dr. Talmage has had on Sunday evenings since the burning of the Tabernacle drove his congregation to the shelter of the Academy of Music, have been something phenomenal. This evening the spacious building was filled in every part. The popular preacher discoursed on the profession of healing. His text was Matthew ii, 5, "The blind receive their sight and the lame walk, the lepers are released and the dead hear." He said:

"Doctor," I said to a distinguished surgeon, "do you not get worn out with constantly seeing so many wounds and broken bones and distortions of the human body?" "Oh, no," he answered, "all that is overcomed by my joy in curing them." A sublimer or more merciful art never came down from heaven than the art of surgery. Catastrophe and disease entered the earth so early that one of the first wants of the world was a doctor. Our crippled and agonized human race called for surgeon and family physician for many years before they came. The first surgeons who answered this call were ministers of religion, namely the Egyptian priests. And what a grand thing if all the clergymen were also doctors, all D.D.'s were M. D.'s, for there are so many cases where body and soul need treatment at the same time, consolation and medicine, theology and therapeutics. As the first surgeons of the world were also ministers of religion, may these two professions always be in full sympathy! But under what disadvantages the early surgeons worked, from the fact that the dissection of the human body was forbidden, first by the pagans and then by the early Christians! Apes, being the brutes most like the human race, were dissected, but no human body might be unfolded for physiological and anatomical exploration, and the surgeons had to guess what was inside the temple by looking at the outside of it. If they failed in any surgical operation they were persecuted and driven out of the city, as was Archagathus because of his bold but unsuccessful attempt.

To Save a Patient.

But the world from the very beginning kept calling for surgeons, and their first skill is spoken of in Genesis, where they employed their art for the incisions of a sacred rite, God making surgery the predecessor of baptism; and we see it again in II. Kings, where Ahaziah, the monarch, stepped on some cracked lattice-work in the palace, and it broke, and he fell from the upper to the lower floor, and he was so hurt that he sent to the village of Ekron for aid; and Esculapius, who wrought such wonders of surgery that he was deified, and temples were built for his worship at Pergamos; and Ephiaurus and Podilrus introduced for the relief of the world phlebotomy; and Dimocedes cured the dislocated ankle of King Darius, and the cancer of his queen; and Hippocrates put successful hand on fractures, and instituted amputation; and Paracelsus removed obstruction; and Ambrose Pare began dissection; and Eraslastratus removed tumors; and Celsus, the Roman surgeon, removed cataract from the eye and used the Spanish fly; and Heliodorus arrested disease of the throat; and Alexander, of Tralles, treated the eye; and Rhazas cauterized for the prevention of hydrophobia; and Percival Pott came to combat disease of the spine; and in our own country we have had a Roux and a Larrey in France, an Astley Cooper and an Abernethy in Great Britain, and a Valentine Mott and Willard Parker and Samuel D. Gross in America, and a galaxy of living surgeons as brilliant as their predecessors. What mighty progress in the baffling of disease since the cripples and sick of ancient times were laid along the streets, that people who had every bone in horrible disordered in the same way might suggest what had better be done for the patients; and the priests of olden time, who were constantly suffering from colds received in walking barefoot over the temple pavements, had to prescribe for themselves, and fractures were considered so far beyond all human cure that instead of calling in the surgeons the people

Only Invoked the Gods!

But notwithstanding all the surgical and medical skill of the world with what tenacity the old diseases hang on to the human race, and most of them are maladies of years old, and in our Bibles we read of the tumacles of Job and Hezekiah, the palpitation of the heart spoken of in Deuteronomy; the sun stroke of a child carried from the fields of Shunem crying, "My head! my head!" King Asa's disease of the feet, which was nothing but gout; defection of teeth, that called for dental surgery, the skill of which, quite equal to anything modern, is still seen in the filled molars of the unrolled Egyptian mummies, the ophthalmia caused by the light of the newly risen sun, leaving the people blind at the roadside; epilepsy, as in the case of the young man oft falling into the fire and oft into the water; hypochondria, as of Nebuchadnezzer, who imagined himself an ox, and going out to the fields to pasture; the withered hand, which in Bible times, as now, came from the destruction of the main artery, or from paralysis of the chief nerve; the wounds of the man whom the thieves left for dead on the road to Jericho, and whom the good Samaritan nursed, pouring in oil and wine—wine to cleanse the wound, and oil to soothe it. Thank God for what surgery has done for the alleviation and cure of human suffering!

The world has never seen but one surgeon who could straighten the crooked limb, cure the blind eye, or reconstruct the drum of a soundless ear, or reduce a dropsy, without any pain at the time, or any pain after, and that surgeon was Jesus Christ, the mightiest, grandest, gentlest, and most sympathetic surgeon the world ever saw, or ever will see; and he deserves the confidence and love and worship and hosanna of all the earth, and hallelujahs of all heaven. "The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk; the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear."

I notice this surgeon had

A Fondness for Chronic Cases.

Many a surgeon, when he has had a patient brought to him, has said: "Why was not this attended to five years ago? You bring him to me after all power of recuperation is gone. You have waited until there is a complete contraction of the muscles, and false ligatures are formed, and ossification has taken place. It ought to have been attended to long ago." But Christ, the surgeon, seemed to prefer inveterate cases. One was a hunchback of 12 years, and he stopped it. Another was a curvature of 18 years, and he straightened it. Another was a cripple of 38 years, and he walked out well. The 18-year patient was a woman bent almost double. If you could call a convention of all the surgeons of all the centuries, their combined skill could not cure that body so drawn out of shape. Perhaps they might stop it from getting any worse, perhaps they might contrive braces by which she might be made comfortable, but it is, humanly speaking, incurable. Yet this divine surgeon put both his hands on her, and from that doubled-up posture she began to rise, and the empurpled face began to take on a healthier hue, and the muscles began to relax from their rigidity, and the spinal column began to adjust itself, and the cords of the neck began to be more supple, and the eyes, that could see only the ground before, now looked into the face of Christ with gratitude, and up toward heaven in transport. Straight! After eighteen weary and exhaustive years, straight! The poise, the gracefulness, the beauty of healthy womanhood reinstated.

The 38 years' case was a man who lay on a mattress near the mineral baths at Jerusalem. There were five apartments where lame people were taken, so that they could get the advantage of these mineral baths. The stone basin of the bath is still visible, although the waters have disappeared, probably through some convulsion of nature, the bath, 120 feet long, 40 feet wide, and 8 feet deep. Ah, poor man, if you have been lame and helpless 38 years, that mineral bath cannot restore you. Why, 38 years is more than the average of human life! Nothing but the grave will cure you. But Christ, the surgeon, walks along these banks, and I have no doubt passes by some patients who have been only six months disordered, or a year, or five years, and comes to the mattress of the man who had been nearly four decades helpless, and to him He says: "Invalid sure! Will thou be made whole?" The question asked, not because the surgeon did not understand the protractedness, the desperateness, of the case, but to evoke the man's pathetic narrative. "Wilt thou be made whole?" "Would you like to get well?" "Oh yes," says the man, "that is what I came to these mineral baths for; I have tried every thing. All the surgeons have failed, and all the prescriptions have proved valueless, and I have got worse and worse, and I can neither move hand or foot or head. Oh, if I could only be free from this pain of thirty-eight years!" Christ, the Surgeon, could not stand that. Bending over the man on the mattress, and in a voice tender with all sympathy, but strong with all omnipotence, he says, "Rise!" And the invalid instantly scrambles to his knees, and then puts out his right foot, then his left foot, and then stood upright as though he had never been prostrated. While he stands looking at the doctor with a joy too much to hold, the doctor says: "Shoulder this mattrass! for you are not only well enough to walk, but well enough to work, and start out from these mineral baths. Take up thy bed and walk!" Oh what a Surgeon for chronic cases then, and for chronic cases now!

In Speaking of Christ as a Surgeon,

I must consider him as an oculist, or eye doctor, and an aurist, or ear doctor. Was there ever such another oculist? That he was particularly sorry for the blind folks, I take from the fact that the most of his works was with the diseased optic nerves. I have not time to count up the number of blind people mentioned who got his cure. Two blind men in one house, also one who was born blind; so that it was not removal of a visual obstruction, but the creation of the cornea, and ciliary muscle, and crystalline lens, and retina, and optic nerve, and tear gland; also the blind man of Bathsaida, cured by the saliva which the Surgeon took from the tip of his tongue and put upon the eyelids; also two blind men who sat by the wayside. In our civilized lands we have blindness enough, the ratio fearfully increasing, according to the statement of Boston and New York and Philadelphia oculists, because of reading of morning and evening newspapers on the jolting cars by the multitudes who live out of the city and come in to business. But in the lands where this Divine Surgeon operated, the cases of blindness were multiplied beyond everything by the particles of sand floating in the air, and the night dews falling on the eyelids of those who slept on the tops of their houses; and in some of these lands it is estimated that twenty out of a hundred people are totally blind. Amid all that crowd of visionless people, what work for an oculist! And I do not believe that more than one out a hundred of that Surgeon's cures were reported. He went up and down among those people who were feeling slowly their way by staff, or led by the hand of man or rope of dog, and introducing them to the faces of their own household, to the sunrise and sunset, and over the expressionless face, and the shutters of both windows were swung open and the restored went home crying, "I see! I see! Thank God I see!"

That is the oculist we all need. Till he touches our eyes we are blind. Yea, we were born blind. By nature we see things wrong if we see them at all. Our best eternal interests are put before us and we cannot see them. The glories of a loving and harrowing Christ are projected, and we do not behold them. Or we have a defective sight which makes the things of this world larger than the things of the future, time bigger than eternity. Or we are color blind and cannot see the difference between the blackness of darkness forever and the roseate morning of an everlasting day. But Christ the Surgeon comes in, and though we shrink back afraid to have him touch us, yet he puts his fingers on the closed eyelids of the soul, and midnight becomes mid-noon; and we understand something of the joy of the young man of the Bible, who, though he had never before been able to see his hand before his face, now, by the touch of Christ, had two headlights kindled under his brow, cried out in amazement that confounded the sneering crowd who were insulting the Christ that effected the cure, and wanted to make him out a bad man, "whether he be a sinner or no, I know not; one thing I know, that whereas I was blind, now I see."

But this surgeon was just as wonderful as an aurist. Very few people have two good ears. Nine out of ten people are more particular to cut off the left side of the face than the right side of the head. Another was born deaf and dumb, and Christ put his fingers in the ears and agitated them, and kept on agitating them until the vibration gave vital energy to all the deaf parts, and they responded, and when our surgeon withdrew his fingers from the ears, and the two tunnels of sound were clear for all sweet voices of music and friendship. But yet he was dumb. No word had ever leaped over his lip. Speech was chained under his tongue. Our surgeon, having unbarred his ear, will now melt the shackle of his tongue. The application is made, and lo, the rigidity of the dumb tongue is relaxed, and between the tongue and teeth were born a whole vocabulary, and words flew into expression. Why is it that while other surgeons used knives and forceps and probes and spectroscopes, this surgeon used only the ointment of his own lips? To show that all the curative power we ever feel comes straight from Christ. And if he touches us not, we shall be deaf as a rock and dumb as a stone. Oh thou groaner of all nations, compel us to hear and help us to speak!

But what were the surgeon's fees for all these cures of eyes, and ears, and tongues, and withered hands, and crooked backs? The skill and the painlessness of the operations were worth hundreds and thousands of dollars. This greatest surgeon of all the centuries gave all his services then, and offers all his services now free of charge. "Without money and without price" you may spiritually have your blind eyes opened, and your deaf ears unbarred, and your dumb tongues loosened, and your wounds healed, and your soul saved. If Christian people get hurt of body, mind, or soul, let them remember that surgery is apt to hurt, but it cures, and you can afford present pain for future glory.

What a grand thing for our poor human race when this surgeon shall have completed the treatment of all the world's wounds! No pay he took on earth. Come, now, and let all heaven pay him with worship that shall never end and a love that shall never die. On his head be all the crowns! In his hands be all the sceptersl and at his feet be all the worlds!

THE BLOOMERS.

A Famous Woman Celebrates Her 50th Wedding Anniversary.

One of the most brilliant affairs ever witnessed in Council Bluffs, Iowa, was the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Bloomer, which took place on April 15. Susan B. Anthony and Mrs. George Hale, of Wyoming, sent their regrets.

Mr. and Mrs. Bloomer came there 35 years ago, Mr. Bloomer starting out in the practice of law. Mrs. Bloomer has been for many years the earnest champion of woman's rights, and was a member of the first woman's rights convention ever held. She was also the originator of the Bloomer costume, whose fame has become world-wide.

Entitled to the Best.

All are entitled to the best that their money will buy, so every family should have, at once, a bottle of the best family remedy, Syrup of Figs, to cleanse the system when costive or bilious. For sale in 50c and $1 bottles by all leading druggists.

Financially Embarrassed.

A. H. Hubbard, the owner of the Hubbard Bros'. publishing house, No. 406 Race street, Philadelphia, Pa., is financially embarrassed and cannot go on with his business unless he is given an extension of time. His liabilities amount, it is said, to $140,000, and he places his assets at about $250,000.

The Farm.

INFORMATION WANTED.

Wood Ashes as a Fertilizer.

J. H., Pennsylvania: You do not state what kind of wood the tree tops, old logs, etc., are which you propose to burn to ashes to be used as a fertilizer. Assuming, however, that they are oak or pine, we give the analysis of each: Oak wood—Per cent of ash, —; potash, 10.0; soda, 3.6; magnesia, 4.8; lime, 73.5; phosphoric acid, 5.5; sulphuric acid, 1.4; chlorine, 0.2; silica, 1.1. Red pine—Per cent of ash, 0.25; potash, 5.02; soda, 26.8; magnesia, 6.2; lime, 47.9; phosphoric acid, 5.1; sulphuric acid, 3.0; chlorine, 4.0; silica, 2.0. Although wood ashes do not belong to natural manures, they may be classified with them. In new ground, where log heaps have been burned, the beneficial results are noticeable for years. Ashes are admitted to be the best of the saline manures, as well as the most economical, as they are readily obtainable. It even pays to purchase them. Leached ashes are only about half as valuable as unleached for land, but they contain every element of the unleached, having been deprived only of part of their potash and soda. They are beneficial to all soils not already saturated with the elements they contain. Allen says the quantity of ashes that should be applied to the acre must depend on the soil and the crops cultivated. Potatoes, turnips and all roots, clover, lucern, peas and beans, and the grasses, are great exhausters of the salts, and they are much benefited by ashes. For clover, peas and roots, their effects are much enhanced when mixed with gypsum. Light soils should have a smaller, and rich lands or clays a heavier, dressing. From 12 to 15 bushels for the former per acre, and 30 to 40 for the latter, is not too much; or, if they are leached, the quantity may be increased one-half. Repeated dressings with ashes, like those of lime and gypsum, without a corresponding addition of vegetable or barnyard manures, will eventually exhaust tillage lands. They may be drilled in with roots or grain, or sown broadcast on meadows or pastures, or mixed with the muck heap and spread upon them. You are advised to burn the logs and limbs and spread the ashes upon your farm. They will prove of benefit.

Looks Like Dropsy.

G. W. L., Montgomery county, Illinois: You describe dropsy. You are advised to take of venice turpentine, 3 ozs.; oil of juniper, 2 drachms; powdered resin, 9 ozs.; nitre, 6 ozs.; hard, dried soap, 6 ozs. Melt the resin, soap and turpentine together, and when cooling stir in the juniper and nitre. Make into 24 boluses. Give every other night one or two. This is excellent as a staling ball in local dropsies. Also give the animal half a drachm of nitrate of iron and ammonia three times a day, either dissolved in drinking water or sprinkled on the corn.

New Hoof Growing on Horse.

E. C., West Virginia: The new hoof on your horse will eventually, if none of the muscles of the foot have been sprained, get firm and same as the other hooves. If the horn of the new hoof is soft, bathe it frequently with strong brine, and turn brine upon the bottom of the hoof, soaking a few minutes at a time. If the new hoof is hard, it may be softened by taking of spirits of turpentine, 4 ozs.; tar, 4 ozs., and whale oil, 8 ozs. Mix and apply to heels and hoof once a day.

Horse Snores—Nostrils Sore.

J. D. J., Texas: The snoring in your horse is the outcome of neglected bronchitis, or laryngitis, by which the windpipe becomes involved, narrowing the passage, and causing a noise during respiration. It may be relieved by giving powdered nitre, 1 drachm; powdered opium, 1 drachm. Make into a ball with linseed meal and molasses and give this much once a day before feeding for about a week. Also apply a mustard plaster to the throat. As to the soreness in the nose, and occasional bloody discharges, there may be a cancerous or other growth, or it may be a dangerous or fatal disease. You should have him examined by a veterinary surgeon. If there is no veterinarian in your vicinity, examine the nostrils carefully for a foreign substance. If found, remove it. If not, wash the nostrils with carbolic acid 1 part, rain water 10 parts, being careful not to get any of the accumulations in the nose on your hands. After giving the medicine spoken of above, give syrup of iodide of iron, ½ oz (twice a day for three or four days, and see if it benefits. If so, the medicine may be repeated every other week for a day or two for a month. Your best plan is to have your horse examined. Keep bowels open with half a pint of raw linseed oil twice a week. He must not be given a violent cathartic.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Dealing in Futures.

EDITOR BLADE FARM:—The Farmer's Alliance, Industrial Union, and Knights of Labor, at their last convention passed a series of resolutions, among which was the following: "That we demand that Congress shall pass such laws as shall effectually prevent the dealing in futures of all agricultural and mechanical productions, preserving a stringent system of procedure in trials as shall secure prompt conviction, and imposing such penalties as shall secure the most perfect compliance with the law." That one article would be of more value intrinsically should it ever be framed into a law and enforced, than the rest of the series combined, because it would lay the axe at the root of one of the great evils that the farmer has to contend with. There are many shrewd and successful farmers and millers who think that if the bucket shops and the fictitious sales of untold of millions of bushels of grain sold on 'change were stopped, and sales of grain confined to the stock on hand, that before a year had passed after the passage of such a law as the above article calls for, wheat would be worth $1 per bushel in all the leading markets of our country, and all other farm products proportionately—which may be as true as preaching, and it may not.

There is no doubt that the millions of fictitious bushels, in connection with the real, that are frequently sold daily on 'change in the different grain markets of this country, and those of Europe, has a very depressing tendency on the prices of all kinds of grain. But anent the above resolution and the Alliance there are grave fears expressed by those who ought to know that it and the Industrial union are frittering away their time and efforts on minor matters that have no special bearing in shifting the burden which now oppresses the average farmer. Instead of striking with one united blow one of the recognized evils which is seen and felt, it is said they have yoked up the finance heifer and intend to make her work and give milk too. It is an open secret, because it is proclaimed from the housetops, as members of the members are agitating the propriety of converting Uncle Sam into a loan agent, by investing the supposed surplus in the Treasury in loans to farmers at low rates of interest, under the delusion that none others would have any right to apply, even if such a scheme were practicable. Others, again, of the Greenback persuasion, want their's turned out by the wheel-barrow full, so that every one may get his quota, whether or no they have the wherewithal to give in exchange. All such schemes must end in disappointment. Last, but not least, some have petitioned the governor of this state to convene the legislature so that it may pass a state law, stopping the foreclosure of mortgages, having forgotten that the same thing was tried some years ago, and failed. An intelligent readers are agreed that the farmer with abundant crops, is nevertheless, as regards his financial affairs, not in a healthy condition, but relief will never come through any of the above schemes, badly as we need a larger volume of a circulating medium. So you see, Mr. Editor, although it is from four to six months since the different farmers' conventions met, the granger's wagon is still in the mire, so that if they possessed intellectual faculties rivaling the strength of a Hercules, so long as they fail to make common cause and direct their efforts to a removal of a tangible evil, the wagon will remain until wiser counsels prevail. The bucket shops and option selling have been notorious for years as a recognized factor in depressing prices of farm products by all intelligent farmers and millers, and yet there are other farmers who uphold that system, I suppose on the same principle as they would any lottery or scheme of gambling.

This is what Charles A. Pillsbury, the great Minneapolis miller, has to say about it: "If this short selling is not stopped in some way, in five years from now wheat will sell as low as 25c per bushel at the different railroad stations in Minnesota. The Chicago board of trade is working in the right direction, but after they have closed up the bucket shops let them close the gambling on their own boards, and confine their business to legitimate transactions. Then this whole western agricultural country would see such a boom as it has not seen for many years." Further on his article he says: "It is a perfect mystery to me that the Farmers' Alliance and their representatives are paying attention to minor evils and overlooking the vampire that is eating the very life out of them." Do the Alliance and the farmers who are not members of the organization, recognize the significance of what he says? If they do, they will at once throw out a strong skirmish line, in the way of refusing to give the assessor, when he comes around, the amount of wheat and other grain on hand, and the number of acres to be seeded. Says a recent Kansas City paper in speaking of the grain market: "The bulls and bears are anxiously waiting for Secretary Mohler's report." Further comment as to giving or withholding such statistics is uncalled for. "The wayfaring man, though a fool, cannot err therein."

Then why stand ye on the street corners like the pharisees of old, uttering loud prayers (objections) against trusts and monopolies, and occupy the highest seats in the synagogues, (lodges), to be seen and known of men as the ones who will in due time right the farmers' wrongs. It is very much to be feared that the anise and cumin (small profits of the merchant and grocer) is more to your liking. Let the Alliance and its allies bear in mind that not only the eyes of the toiling millions is upon them, but the eyes of the harpies who feed upon the products of your sweat and toil also, and every false move you make will be turned against you, and if you fail, it will not be because for lack of the sympathy of all who wish well to their fellow man. Nor like the Dutchman who, in drinking a glass of liquor, accidentally swallowed a mouse, and remarked, "I dought it was a hep but it was a mouse." His capacity was good for a hop or a mouse. Not so the Alliance if it fails. Two million of votes properly handled should not only consign bucket shops and option sellers to hades, but all other human parasites who make the farmer and others who are breadwinners, their legitimate prey.—WM. STINE, Kansas.

Thoroughbred Fowls.

EDITOR BLADE FARM:—As many of the readers of THE BLADE are interested in poultry I thought a few lines on the subject would not be out of place.

The time for hatching chicks is now near at hand, and countless numbers of the downy creatures will be ushered into existence in the next few months. The common fowl is kept by most people, and but few take pride in caring for and possessing a flock of thoroughbred fowls. The fact is to be regretted, as it costs no more to feed pure bred chickens than common ones, while the former are much more beautiful, and experience has proven that they are more profitable, laying more eggs, with the same care and feed, and furnishing more and finer flesh than the old dung-hills. You all, no doubt, know that there some 50 or more pure or fancy breeds of fowls, all having their special merits, and also their faults. No fowl combines all the good qualities in one; it is an impossibility. Some are so-called "egg-machines;" others are excellent market fowls, being very large; others are mostly for beauty; others again for size, etc.

Anyone wishing a large breed should select the stately and beautiful Light Brahma. These fowls need very little recommendation from their admirers. They are the most popular among the Asiatic breeds, and the giants of the poultry kingdom, cocks weighing 12 pounds, hens 10 pounds when fully grown. They are good winter layers of large, richly flavored, buff-colored eggs, and a fine market fowl, dressing from 5 to 6 pounds when six months old. Pullets will begin to lay in the fall and continue through the winter if hatched early and properly cared for and provided with warm quarters. A good hen will lay 150 eggs and hatch and rear a brood of chicks each season, laying 100 of that number of eggs between December 1 and June 1, thus producing them when they demand the highest prices. They are well content in a small yard, and can be kept in by a fence four feet high, which makes them well suited for town or country. We confidently recommend them to all those wishing to raise poultry for market.

The Wyandottes come nearer being a general purpose fowl than any other breed. I have put in the "Buff Orpingtons," and find them a grand breed in every respect. They are a comparatively new breed, but their qualities have won for them a high place in the American class. They are a beautiful fowl, their bright red rose combs, clean yellow legs and black and golden yellow plumage forming an attractive combination of colors unsurpassed by any of the feathered tribe. Besides their beauty, they are also one of the most useful and profitable breeds among our domestic poultry. They are the rivals of the Plymouth Rock, a breed which is a favorite with the fancier, farmer and general poultry keeper. They are medium in size, weighing from six to eight pounds, but their weight can be increased by early hatching. They are a good winter layer of large sized light brown eggs, and they stand without a rival. They make good setters and mothers, and the chicks often begin to lay when 5 months old.

Among the "egg machines" no breeds hold a higher place than the Black Minorcas and the White Leghorns. The latter is an old and popular breed in this country, but the Minorca has been added to the list for only about four years. This breed is an old English favorite variety in England. They are a Spanish breed, having large, bright scarlet, single combs, long, pendulous wattles, red face, white ear-lobes, lustrous black plumage, a majestic carriage, close, compact body, are white in the legs and of a stout, square build. They are quite a large breed, cocks weighing 7 to 8 lbs., hens 5 to 6 lbs. It is claimed by both English and American breeders that no fowl will surpass them in egg production, both as to quantity and size of the eggs. Some of my hens have laid from 180 to 225 eggs in a year. They are white in color, and those from adult fowls generally weigh two pounds to the dozen. I find that they bear confinement well, but will make good foragers when given a range. The Minorca is a hardy breed, easily raised and quiet in disposition, being a non-setter, makes it a favorite with many persons who dislike broody hens. The pullets begin to lay at an early age, from four to four and one-half months when hatched quite early in the spring. Their table qualities are fair, but not as good as the Asiatic breeds. Black Minorcas are highly thought of wherever known, and persons wishing one of the best layers in existence can do no better than select this handsome and profitable variety.

The White Leghorns are also very good layers, being almost equal to the Minorca, but their eggs are not so large. The Leghorn is also a smaller breed, cocks weighing a boutfive pounds, hens four pounds. They are fine table fowls, their flesh being white and fluely flavored. Their beak is yellow; also their legs. The comb, as to hardiness, prevention of frost, etc., given in the description of the Minorcas, apply equally as well to the Leghorns. At least this has been my experience.

In the foregoing I have given a description of four of the best and most profitable of our pure breeds. They will suit the wants of everybody who wishes to raise poultry for profit and for pleasure.

To those wanting a few fowls as pets for the children or for their own amusement I would recommend the Japanese Bantams. These are probably the prettiest among the Bantam varieties. Their plumage is a pure white, except a few black flights in wings; beak yellow, large, single, bright red comb, red ear-lobes and wattles. The tail of the cock is black and carried so upright as to come almost in contact with the head. Sickle feathers long, quite upright and curved, rich black in color, with an edging of white. Legs bright yellow, smooth, and free from feathers. Carriage extremely erect. The hen is of the same plumage. Tail rather large, black, and tolerably upright; legs, same as cock's. The hens are good layers and mothers, and produce as much for their food as most other breeds. These Bantams make splendid pets for the children, as they become very tame and like to be handled. Also older persons will find their keeping a source of amusement as well as profit.

I have found the above varieties among the best of our many different breeds, and would urge those of THE BLADE readers, who contemplate raising a few chickens the coming season, to try one or more of the above varieties and see if the statements made are not true.

If the above is of interest to my readers I will in future issues give plans for making hen's nests, hints on caring for chicks, constructing a poultry house suitable for the north, etc.—H. A. KUENNE, Wisconsin.

Begins Where She Left Off.

EDITOR BLADE FARM:—I will begin where I left off in my last letter in regard to the cause of the gapes. I should have said greasing the little chicks' heads to kill the large louse was perhaps a preventive, as I sometimes think it is caused from that source. Where there are a good many chicks the same size, I find as good a way as any is to grease the old hen once a week. Too much grease in damp weather will kill the little ones. I think a good way is to set as many hens at or about the same time as you can, then give about 20 chickens to each hen; then set the rest over again after changing the old nest for a new one. (I hear some one say, "cruel woman.") Now I think no one gets pleasure or profit without an effort, and I make my hens do as I have to. Then, if I have some that will hatch soon, I give the longest setting to the first chickens hatched. That leaves them sometimes four, five and six weeks setting. I have no trouble to get the hens to claim the chicks. If I see they are ready to hatch, I remove to the hen I want to have them and let her hatch them. I think not more than 25 chicks ought to be with one hen. I have a neighbor that puts as high as 100 with one hen, but I don't see many chicks around long at a time. One hen cannot do justice by so many. I do not care how much help you give them. Of course that is my own experience and observation as well. Why does not some one with geese or ducks say something? I would like to deal in the latter, but will have to exercise woman's rights if I do. Then I will tell my experience in that direction, why is there not more profit in them. You get as much a pound and the feathers beside.

I would advise Mrs. Fields to sell her fat hens and buy some of the large kinds, but poor, and use woman's rights about the corn crib door. There is, I think, the great mistake of feeding too much corn. We never feed any. Of course our chickens have farm range and get considerable, but we have fed oats once a day all winter, sometimes more than at other times. Hens are fat enough to eat nicely, and lay all the time. I think it pays to raise to sell at five or six cents a pound, and we get that.—Mrs. E. F. B., Illinois.

News of the Week.

Under this head we aim to give a summary of all important events occurring within the week, in compact yet easily understood form, accompanied by such explanations as may be necessary to a perfect comprehension. We regard this as a feature of the greatest value to all our readers, and especially to the younger members of the family.

TRADE AND CROPS.

STATE OF TRADE.

Review of Business for the Past Seven Days.

R. G. Dun & Co's. weekly review of trade, dated New York, April 19, says: A season of extraordinary speculation has set in. Grain, pork, products, cotton, oil and sugar have advanced, the latter in spite of the proposal to remove the entire duty, and spruce lumber also, in spite of the rapidly increasing interruption of building by eight-hour strikes. The general average of prices for commodities has advanced .8 of 1 per cent in a week and 1.7 per cent in three weeks. Stocks have also been stronger, and reports of trade, which are influenced rather by prices at which goods are sold than by the volume of business transacted, are uniformly more cheerful. At the same time there is continued evidence of an actual increase over last year in the volume of business transacted.

Wheat was started upward by reports of injury in winter wheat states. At New York the sales have been 124,000,000 bushels, probably the largest week's transaction on record.

Corn has advanced 4¼c on "sympathy" 2¾c and oats 1¾c.

Oil has advanced 4¼c without any known occasion.

Pork has risen $2 per barrel.

There is not a corresponding improvement in the industrial condition. Wool has been firmer at Boston, without change in price, very dull and inactive at New York and Philadelphia. In the dry goods market no improvement is seen. Cotton manufacture does not thrive the better for the advance in material, with goods unchanged in price, and print cloths only 3.3 cent for 64s.

The boot and shoe industry is clearly thriving, and leather and hides are both a shade firmer and in more active demand. But the eight-hour strikes in many cities have already arrested all building operations and are expected to extend, so that the market for glass is already affected unfavorably, and also the demand for structural iron.

The iron business shows no improvement. In steel rails large orders are pending and it is thought will soon be placed at $33. Bar iron is dull and depressed.

Substantially, all the reports from other cities give an encouraging record of the state of business. At Boston improvement continues; retail dry goods trade is large and causes better jobbing trade, and domestic hides are higher. At Philadelphia there is especial activity in drugs and chemicals, and the past week was the best for a long time in groceries. Chicago reports the usual great increase in the movement of grain and dressed beef, lake shipments of grain being double last year's, and dry goods sales fully equal to the last year's while clothing falls behind, but is fairly satisfactory. Collections there are generally good. St. Louis also notes improvement, fair prompt collections, and expectations of a good spring trade. At nearly all other western points similar favorable reports are made, and St. Paul notes that recent rains help farmers, and seeding is going on rapidly.

It is especially noteworthy that there is no serious monetary pressure anywhere. Money is quiet and easy at Boston, easier at Philadelphia and steady with plentiful supplies at Chicago, St. Louis, Milwaukee and Omaha, Cincinnati and Detroit only reporting some closeness.

Exports of products in March appear to have increased fully 5 per cent over last year, and probably exceeded imports by $5,000,000, but thus far in April exports have fallen about 19 per cent below last year's at New York, while imports show an increase of 12½ per cent.

The business failures occurring throughout the country during the past seven days number 221, as compared with 209 last week. For the corresponding week of last year the figures were 246.

THE CROPS.

The Condition of Winter Wheat not Materially Changed.

The following crop summary was printed in the Chicago *Farmers' Review* of April 16:

"The condition of winter wheat has not been changed materially within the past two weeks. In many of the states a considerable portion of the winter wheat acreage will be ploughed. In Illinois, 75 per cent will be ploughed in Sangamon and Moultrie counties, and 50 per cent in Champaign, Macoupin, Pike and Vermilion counties, and an average of more than 20 per cent in fifteen other counties. In Vermilion county, Indiana, 75 per cent will be ploughed, and in twenty other counties 10 to 30 per cent will be ploughed. In Ohio eleven correspondents report that 10 to 25 per cent of the acreage will be ploughed. In six counties in Missouri 10 to 25 per cent will be ploughed. Very little will be turned under in Kansas, and only a small amount in Kentucky. A few correspondents in Michigan and Wisconsin report that 25 to 50 per cent of the winter wheat acreage will be ploughed. Wheat in Kansas has suffered from drouth and the high winds that have prevailed in that state during the past two weeks.

"An excess of moisture is reported in Illinois, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan and Wisconsin. Some seeding has been done in Illinois, but work has been greatly retarded in many counties by the wet weather. On this account little or no seeding has been done in Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, Michigan and Wisconsin. In Kansas, where the condition of the soil has been more favorable for spring work, seeding is nearly finished, and in Kansas farmers have begun planting corn.

"We summarize the reports of our correspondents relative to the condition of winter wheat as follows: Illinois 75 per cent, Indiana 72, Ohio 89, Missouri 86, Kentucky 86, Kansas 93, Michigan 70, Wisconsin 79.

WASHINGTON NEWS.

THE NEW TARIFF BILL.

The Report Accompanying the Bill from the Committee.

The majority report of the committee on ways and means, which was presented to the House on April 16, begins with a statement of the financial situation and estimates that the surplus at the end of the fiscal year will be $92,000,000, and deducting the sum required to make payments on the sinking fund the net surplus of receipts over expenditures will be $43,678,883. The estimated surplus of the next fiscal year will be $43,569,522, which, with the amount of cash now on hand and available (reaching $90,000,000), will justify a reduction of the revenue in the sum contemplated by the bill reported $60,936,936, and probably more from customs, and say $10,327,878 from internal revenue, or a total of $71,264,414. The majority report says:

The exact effect upon the revenues of the government of the proposed bill is difficult of ascertaining. That there will be a substantial reduction, as we will show, admits of no doubt. It is not believed that the increase upon wools and woolen goods and upon glassware will have the effect of increasing the revenues. That would, of course, follow if the importation of the last fiscal year were hereafter to be maintained, which, however, is altogether improbable. The result will be that importations will be decreased; and, therefore, the amount of revenue resulting from these sources will be diminished. In every case of increased duty, except that imposed upon tin plate (which does not go into effect until July 1, 1891,) and upon linen fabrics, the effect will be to reduce rather than enlarge the revenue, because importation will fall off.

It was the aim of the committee to fix the duties upon that class of manufactured goods and farm products which can be supplied at home so as to discourage the use of like foreign goods and products, and secure to our people and our own producers the home market, believing that competition among ourselves will secure reasonable prices to consumers in the future as it has in the past. We are led by the increased duties recommended not only to maintain, but to enlarge our own manufacturing plants, and check those supplies from abroad which can be profitably produced at home. The general policy of the bill is to foster and promote American production and diversification of American industry.

We have not been so much concerned about the prices of the articles we consume as we have been to encourage a system of home production that shall give fair remuneration to domestic producers and fair wages to American workmen, and by increased production and home competition insure fair prices to consumers.

The committee admits that free trade, or revenue duties, would temporarily diminish prices, but argue that it would be at the expense of the domestic products which would be displaced, and then prices would again advance and the country be left at the mercy of foreign syndicates and manufacturers.

CHEAP PRODUCTS; CHEAP LABOR.

What Free Trade Would Mean to the Workingman.

The report says:

Cheaper products from abroad to the American consumers mean cheaper labor at home and lower rewards to the domestic producer, with no permanent benefits to the consumer. Neither condition would prove a benefit to the United States. That country is the least prosperous where low prices and low wages prevail. One of the chief complaints now prevalent among our farmers is that they can get no price for their crops at all commensurate to the labor and capital invested in their production. Those who differ from us must believe that even further agricultural depreciation is desirable, for no other consequence can result from their economic theories. They advocate cheap prices per pound for products, and industrial policy they commend to the country. This means permanently low prices for agricultural products as well as for manufactured goods.

This bill is framed in the interest of the people of the United States. It is for the better defense of American homes and American industries. Ample revenues for the wants of the government are provided by this bill, and every reasonable encouragement is given to production, enterprise and to the labor employed therein. The committee believe that inasmuch as nearly $1,000,000,000 are annually required to meet the expenses of the government, it is folly to add to the price not only of the imported, but of the domestic product, which is not true of duties imposed on articles produced or made here substantially to the extent of our wants. In 1889 the duties collected on imported sugar and molasses amounted to $55,915,610. Add to this the increase of price of domestic sugar arising from the duty and it is clear that the duty on sugar and molasses cost the people of this country at least $80,000,000 or more, which would, with wisdom and child in the United States more than it would have been if no such duties had been levied, and the domestic product had remained the same. Even on the assumption that the present encouragement will eventually be able to produce all, or nearly all the sugar required for consumption of our people—an assumption which your committee believe to be sustained by many facts, notwithstanding the low prices now ruling in competing countries and our own would result either in the abandonment of much of our manufacturing here, or in the depression of our labor. Either result would bring disaster, the extent of which no one can measure.

We have recommended no duty above the point of difference between the normal cost of production here, including labor, and the cost of like production in the countries which seek our markets, nor have we hesitated to give this measure of duty, even though it involved an increase over present rates, and showed an advance of percentages and ad valorem equivalents.

We have not sought to make a uniform rate, o duty upon all imported articles. This would have been manifestly unjust and inequitable.

IN DETAIL.

**Why Certain Articles Have Been Plac

imported white refined sugar will be subject to a duty of only four-tenths of one cent a pound.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.

The Farmers Have Received Months of Consideration.

Coming to agricultural products the report says the committee has given months of investigation to the existing conditions of agricultural and kindred matters. It says:

That there is widespread depression in this industry to-day cannot be doubted. Every remedy within the scope of practical legislation known to your committee has been recommended in the proposed measure to meet the urgent requirements of the situation.

The enemies of the protective system have to no end of criticism for the real causes of agricultural depression, no suggestion of relief from the real burdens which are weighing it down to-day, but seizing the present as a favorable time they solemnly charge that the decline in agriculture is the result of the tariff. They are pleased to ignore the fact that one of the purposes of a protective tariff is to hinder a still larger importation of foreign produce and thus save the market from greater depression. But your committee, sensible to this importance of this industry, prompted by the single motive to lift it to the higest level of profitable employment, believe they offer in the bill all the relief which tariff legislation can give to it.

A critical examination of the subject will show that agricul ure is suffering chiefly from a most damaging foreign competition in our home market. The phenomenal increase in importations of agricultural products since 1850 has been enormous, mounting from $40,000,000 to more than $365,000,000 in 1889. The "world's market," to which the advocates of tariff for revenue only invite the country, is to-day crowded with the products of the cheapest human labor the earth affords. All over the old world there is a rush of their surplus to that market, and the fear is not without cause as this that free trade would allure American agriculture. With the foreign grain market under the sway of such oppressive competition; with the foreign cattle and pork market depressed and threatened by various and onerous measures of restriction; with foreign agricultural products crowding our home market, your committee have recommended an increase upon agricultural products.

A Bounty to Silk Growers.

With a view to increasing the number of gainful occupations open to the farmer the committee has recommended a bounty to the growers of silk. Reference is made to the successful experiments in silk culture of the department of Agriculture which, it is said, fully warrant the belief that the industry is entirely practicable in many of the states. As a duty of $1 a pound would be required to protect the American silk reeler, the committee has decided that the wisdom of such an enhancement in silk weaving interests without sufficient reason, and to secure the industry as speedily as possible, offers the necessary differential of a bounty of $1 per pound, or about 20 per cent protection on reeled silk. The report says:

To produce our annual importations of reeled silk will require 14,000 basins and give work to over 29,000 persons in the different branches of the industry. To produce the cocoons necessary to supply this silk will give temporary but remunerative employment to the families of 500,000 farmers every season.

To encourage the production of cocoons and give direct encouragement to the producers, the committee has also provided a bounty of seven cents a pound on fresh cocoons, and these bounties are to continue for ten years. This bounty, based on last year's production, would have amounted to but $3,000 on cocoons, and less than one-twelfth of that sum on silk. Of the internal revenue sections the committee, after reciting them, say that it has recommended the repeal of all statutes imposing restrictions upon farmers and growers of tobacco, so that they will sell with freedom.

SOME CHANGES.

Where the Bill has Been Modified in Recent Days.

In conclusion the report says that the advance of duties on agricultural products would increase the revenues if the imports continue to be as large as during the last year. But as they are for the most part such articles which this country can produce to the extent of our wants, the increased duty will reduce importations so that the revenues will not be increased and our farmers will hold their own markets. The same result will follow in other cases of increase, and where the revenue is in special cases increased the increased duty will be largely nullified by competition based on the theory that the importations will continue as large as under lower duties.

The bill as submitted with the report shows a number of changes since it was laid before the full committee about a fortnight ago. In the case of nickel ore, a proviso has been attached requiring such ores as contain more than two per cent of copper to pay a duty of one and one-quarter cents per pound on the copper contained therein. The committee also added the following section to the internal revenue feature of the bill:

Upon cigars which shall be manufactured and sold at or removed for consumption or use, there shall be assessed and collected the following taxes, to be paid by the manufacturer thereof—on cigars of all descriptions made of tobacco or any substitute therefor, $3 per thousand; on cigarettes weighing not more than three pounds per 1,000, 50 cents per 1,000; on cigarettes made wholly of tobacco, and ending both wrapper and filler, weighing not more than five pounds per 1,000, 50 cents per 1,000; and on cigarettes weighing more than three pounds per 1,000, except as hereinbefore provided, to be made wholly of tobacco, $3 per 1,000.

THE MINORITY REPORT.

It is Signed by All the Democratic Members of the Committee.

The minority report is signed by all of the Democratic members of the committee. It is an argument for free trade, or at the wiping away of protection to home manufactures. The silk bounty is severely criticised. The report says:

The bill will increase the tax on wool and woolens $15,500,000 per annum, according to last year's importations, but really to a much greater sum, while taxes on tobacco to the amount of $8,860,994 are abolished. The minority cannot agree to do this at the price of an increase on necessaries. The only substantial reason urged for the repeal of the tobacco tax is that the revenue is not needed for the public, but a mere reduction of the tax from eight cents to four cents does not dispense with the supervision or reduce the cost of collection.

The lowest grades of woolen yarns, worth not over 30 cents per pound, are to be subjected to a duty of 112 per cent, while the most costly yarn will pay 72 per cent. One grade of coarse, cheap blankets will be required to pay 106 per cent, but the finest blankets will pay 72 per cent. The coarsest and cheapest cotton cloths will be subject to a duty of 111 per cent, and the finest to 66 per cent. Women's and children's cheapest dress goods with cotton warp are to be taxed 70 per cent, and the highest 78 per cent. The lowest grade of woolen cloths will pay 125 per cent, and the highest grade 86 per cent. The cheapest qualities of knit goods for underwear range from 112 to 138 per cent, but their finest and most expensive will pay 78 per cent. Woolen shawls of the coarsest and lowest grade used by the poor people will pay 133 per cent duty, and worsted goods of the lowest grade will pay 112 per cent, while the highest grade will pay 90 per cent.

The report criticises the sugar bounty and protests against the gross favoritism and injustice of such a policy. It says that the bounty on last year's production would have been $7,520,000. But as it is expected to encourage the producers to supply the entire domestic demand, the ultimate result, even if the consumption remained at last year's figures, 2,700,421,302 pounds, would be an annual payment of $61,528,426 in bounties. The sugar duty is indefended as far more just and equitable than that on many other articles, and while the minority believe the duty should be reduced, they cannot see the justice or propriety of making this revenue article free, paying a bounty and making this an excuse for imposing $65,000,000 additional taxes on the other schedules of necessaries. The minority finds it impossible to state with accuracy the effect of the increases. They express the opinion that the increase of the tobacco duty will be $16,305,925, and that other items will show an increase of $8,000,000. Adding these amounts to the $4,055,152 shown by the committee's tables to have been added to the duties on articles remaining on the dutiable list, shows a total increase of duties on articles still dutiable outside of the sugar schedule of about $65,000,000, and we are satisfied it is more than that.

We do not mean to assert that the bill actually increases the customs receipts $65,000,000 over what it is under existing law, but that it proposes to impose upon the articles it leaves upon the dutiable list except sugar and molasses that sum in excess of the amount collected on the same schedules last year. It places upon the free list articles which yielded a revenue of $6,039,969 during the last fiscal year, and it makes a reduction of $54,922,110 on sugar and molasses, and the two sums, amounting to $60,962,079 being deducted from the $65,000,000 leaves a net increase of more than $4,000,000 in tariff taxation under this bill.

MONTANA'S SENATORS.

They Take Their Seats on the Republican Side.

Messrs. Sanders and Powers, the new Montana Senators were in their seats on April 17, their desks having been placed on the Republican side since adjournment he previous day. The desks were first located on the Democratic side, after the four new states were admitted, and there they remained until the action of the Senate seatingthe Republican contestants.

Under the terms of a resolution presented in executive session on the 16th by Mr. Hoar, Messrs. Sanders and Power will be assigned by lot to the classes of senators whose terms expire in 1893 and 1895 respectively. In accordance with the terms of the resolution proposed by Mr. Hoar, the clerk placed in a box two papers of equal size, bearing the numbers 1 and 2. Senator Sanders drew No. 1 and Senator Power drew No. 2. Vice-President Morton thereupon announced that Senator Sanders would be placed in the class of senators whose terms expire March 3, 1893 and Senator Power in the class whose terms expire March 3, 1895.

FIFTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

Deliberations of the Two Houses for the Week.

WASHINGTON, April 15.—Among the petitions presented in the Senate and referred was one by Mr. Dawes, from the Boston Executive Business association, for the privileges of purchasing ships abroad for ten years.

Mr. Hawley gave notice that he would try to call up the Chicago World's fair bill next Friday.

The Montana election case was taken up and Mr. Morgan addressed the Senate.

After the reading of the House journal Mr. Bontelle, of Maine, called up the naval appropriation bill, the pending question being upon the amendment adopted in committee of the whole striking out the clause providing for the construction of three coast line battleships. The action of the committee was rejected—yeas 104, nays 132.

Mr. Holman, of Indiana, moved to recommit the bill, with instructions to the committee on naval affairs to report it back with an amendment providing for one battle-ship. Lost—yeas 103, nays 123. The bill was then passed.

Mr. Cannon, of Illinois, from the committee on rules reported a resolution for the immediate consideration of the bill to define and regulate the jurisdiction of the courts of the United States.

After discussion, Mr. Mills, of Texas, offered an amendment providing that of the additional circuit judges seventeen in number one-half shall be appointed from each of the political parties. Lost—yeas 94, nays 114. The bill was then passed—yeas 131, nays 13—the Speaker counting a quorum.

Adjourned.

WASHINGTON, April 16.—Mr. Mitchell gave notice that he would address the Senate next Tuesday on his constitutional amendment for the election of Senators by the people.

The Chinese enumeration bill was then taken up. After a long discussion Mr. Stewart moved to lay the bill on the table, on the ground that it would do more harm than good. The motion was adopted—yeas 34, nays 24—and the bill was laid on the table—yeas 51, nays 2.

The Senate bill appropriating $100,000 for a public building at Grand Haven, Mich., was passed.

The Montana contested election case was taken up. The vote was taken on the resolutions declaring Clark and Maginnis (Democrats) not entitled to seats, and the resolution was agreed to—yeas 38, nays 19. Messrs. Barbour, George, Kenna and Watthall voting with the Republicans in the affirmative.

Mr. Butler offered as a substitute for the two resolutions declaring Sanders and Power entitled to seats the following:

Resolved, That it is the judgment of the Senate that there has been no choice of United States Senators from the state of Montana.

The substitute was rejected by a party vote—yeas, 23; nays, 31.

The resolutions declaring Wilbur F. Sanders and Thomas C. Power (Republicans) "entitled upon the merits of the case" to seats in the Senate from the state of Montana, were agreed to by a strict party vote—yeas, 32; nays, 26.

Messrs. Sanders and Power were immediately (with some demonstrations of applause from the galleries) escorted to the clerk's desk by Senators Hoar and Wolcott, the oath of office was administered to them by the Vice President, and after a brief executive session, the Senate adjourned.

In the House during the morning hour a bill was reported providing the alien land law so as to permit foreign capital to be invested in mines of gold, silver, lead, tin, cinnabar and copper. Pending discussion the morning hour expired.

Mr. McKinley, of Ohio, from the committee on ways and means, reported the tariff bill and it was ordered printed and referred to the committee of the whole.

Mr. Carlisle, of Kentucky, presented the views of the minority, and Mr. McKenna, of California, presented his individual views. Ordered printed.

The House then went into committee of the whole Mr. Payson, of Illinois, in the chair on the military academy appropriation bill. After a short time occupied in its consideration the committee rose and the bill was passed.

Mr. Bergen, of New Jersey, from the committee on Elections, called up the contested election case of Parsley vs. Parratt, from the Fifth Indiana district. The committee reported unanimously in favor of the sitting member, and the report was adopted.

Mr. Rowell, of Illinois, called up the contested election case of Epes vs. Buchanan, from the Ninth district of Virginia. The resolution which confirms the right of the sitting member was adopted. The House then adjourned.

WASHINGTON, April 17.—In the Senate Messrs. Powers and Sanders were given seats and Senator Sanders was placed in the class of senators whose term expire March 3, 1893, and Senator Power in the class whose terms expire March 3, 1895.

Among the bills introduced was one by Mr. Reagan proposing an amendment to the constitution for the election of senators by vote of the people.

House joint resolution was passed requesting the secretary of War to cause a further report to be made as to the practicability and approximate cost of tunneling the Detroit river at or near Detroit, Mich.

Also House joint for the appointment and retirement of John C. Fremont as major-general in the United States army.

The Senate then proceeded to consider the House joint resolution for the appointment of Nicholas Longworth and others as examiners for the Bureau of Pensions (without reference to the civil service law.)

Mr. Faulkner spoke against the provision taking these appointments from the control of the civil service. Ho moved to strike out that provision.

Mr. Cockrell called for the yeas and nays on Mr. Faulkner's motion. The vote was taken two times, resulted—yeas 12, nays 22—no a quorum. Three Republican senators, Aldrich, Hoar and Saunders, voted in the affirmative with the Democrats.

The roll was called and 44 sena ors—a quorum—answered to their names.

Mr. Hoar moved to adopt the amendment by inserting the words "under regulations to be prescribed by the President of the United States."

After discussion Mr. Hoar (at Mr. Falkner's suggestion) modified his amendment so as to make it read that "the examination of the appointment of these medical examiners shall be under regulations prescribed by the President of the United States."

The amendment was agreed to—yeas 38, nays 8, as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Aldrich, Allen, Berry, Blackburn, Blair, Butler, Casey, Chandler, Cockrell, Coke, Colquitt, Dolph, Faulkner, Frye, George, Gray, Hale, Harris, Higgins, Hiscock, Hoar, Jones, of Arkansas; McMillan, McPherson, Morgan, Paddock, Pasco, Power, Pugh, Ransom, Saunders, Squires, Stockbridge, Turpie, Vance, Vest, Walthall, Washburn—38.

Nays—Daniel, Davis, Dixon, Moody, Plumb, Sawyer, Stewart, Teller—8.

Without finishing the bill the Senate adjourned.

The House adjourned in respect to the memory of Samuel J. Randall whose funeral occurred to-day.

WASHINGTON, April 18.—Mr. Platt introduced a bill for the admission of New Mexico and said that he did not, in doing so, intend to commit himself in one way or the other. Referred.

Mr. Payne introduced a bill for a monument to Commodore Perry at Put in Bay, O. Referred.

On motion of Mr. Edmunds, the Senate went to take up for consideration the Senate bill to forfeit certain railroad lands.

Mr. Dolph moved to proceed to executive business. The vote was taken on Mr. Dolph's motion, and it was agreed to—yeas 32, nays 25—all the negative votes coming from Republicans. The galleries were then cleared and the doors closed. When the doors were reopened legislative business was resumed. The following bills were taken from the calendar and passed:

The House bill providing for times and places of holding the courts of the United States in the district of Minnesota. Senate bill increasing the pension to the widow of Gen. Milloy to $75 a month.

The Senate then took up and agreed to consider immediately after the morning business Monday next the House bill to provide for celebrating the 400th anniversary of the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus by holding an international exhibition of arts, industries, manufactures and the product of the soil, mine and sea, in the city of Chicago.

Mr. Butterworth, of Ohio, moved that the House go into committee of the whole for the consideration of the legislative appropriation bill, but the friends of the private calendar maintained a strong force to defeat the motion, yeas 112, nays 116.

Mr. Lawler, of Illinois, presented the protest of members of the Hardware association of the United States against the proposed rate of duty on cutlery and guns. Referred.

Mr. Peters presented the petition of 628 citizens of Kansas, opposing any reduction of the revenues until a service pension has been granted.

Mr. Henderson, of Illinois, reported the river and harbor appropriation bill and it was referred to the committee of the whole.

The House then went into committee of the whole Mr. Allen, of Michigan, in the chair on the private calendar. The first bill was the first on the calendar, the pending motion being on the resolution offered by Mr. Thomas, of Wisconsin, to report the bill back with the recommendation that it be referred to the committee on rules for an investigation of the status of the measure in connection with the rules of the House. The resolution was lost—67 to 97.

The next question was on the point of order raised by Mr. Kerr, of Iowa, that the committee on War Claims had no jurisdiction of the bill. This point was overruled.

Mr. McComas offered a resolution to recommit the bill, with instructions to the committee to report it back within two weeks, and that the bill be placed at the head of the calendar. Agreed to. The resolution was reported to the House.

Mr. Grosvenor raised the point of order against the resolution, and the Speaker ruled the resolutions out of order. The bill therefore went back on the calendar.

Recess, the evening session for the consideration of private pension bills.

The House at its evening session, Mr. Peters, of Kansas, acting as Speaker pro tem, passed 50 private pension bills and at 10:30 adjourned until to-day.

WASHINGTON, April 19.—In the Senate Mr. Manderson introduced two bills that were referred to the Library committee, for the purchase of Mathews' portrait of Abraham Lincoln, and to accept from the G. A. R. a statute of U. S. Grant and pedestal to be placed in Statuary hall in the Capitol.

A senate bill for the payment of back pay and emoluments as major of the army from 1864 to 1875 to the widow of Lieutenant Colonel Nathaniel H. McLean was passed.

The House was requested to return to the Senate the bill recently passed for a public building in Ashland, Wis., the reason being that, whereas the original bill (a House bill) appropriated $75,000, the senate committee had recommended an increase to $100,000, but by an error in the printing office the amount was made to read $200,000, and the bill was so passed by the Senate. The object of the recal of the bill is to make the appropriation $100,000.

The calendar was then taken up in its regular order, and the following bills, among others, were passed.

The Senate bill to ratify and confirm an agreement with the Indians in Fort Berthold Agency, in North Dakota, and appropriating $80,000.

The Senate bill to dispose of certain lots now unsold of the Fort Dalles military reservation and the improvements thereon.

The Senate bill creating an additional Land office in the state of North Dakota.

The House bill for the construction of a railroad and wagon bridge across the Mississippi river at South St. Paul, Minn.

The House bill granting the counties of Hennepin and Dakota, Minn., the right to build two bridges across the Minnesota river.

Senate bill to authorize the construction of a bridge across the St. Louis river at the most accessible point between the states of Minnesota and Wisconsin (motion to reconsider entered).

The Senate bill to provide for the disposal of Fort Hasuff, Fort Sheridan and Fort McPherson military reservations in the state of Nebraska to actual settlers under the provisions of the homestead laws.

The Senate bill to appropriate $100,000 for an equestrian statue in Washington to Gen. Grant was passed, and the Senate adjourned.

In the House, at 1 o'clock, public business was suspended, and the members proceeded to pay tribute to the memory of S. S. Cox.

WASHINGTON, April 21.—In the Senate the World's Fair bill was passed.

In the House Mr. Dorsey, of Nebraska, introduced a joint resolution that the secretary of the Treasury be and he is hereby directed to increase the Treasury purchase of silver bullion to the maximum amount authorized by an act to "authorize the coinage of the silver dollar and to restore its legal tender character," which act was passed over the veto of the President and became a law February 28, 1878. Referred.

On motion of Mr. Thomas, of Wisconsin, a bill was passed providing that soldiers who lost their limbs during the late war shall be entitled to receive an artificial limb every three years. The present law permits him to receive it every five years.

Mr. Struble, of Iowa, submitted the conference report on the bill to provide a temporary government for the Territory of Oklahoma. The bill as agreed upon changes the boundaries of the proposed Territory of Oklahoma so as to exclude from it the territorial limits what is known as the Cherokee outlet. It is provided, however, that as soon as the Indian claim to this outlet is extinguished it shall become a part of the territory of Oklahoma without further action, and that the lands therein shall be opened to settlement as other lands in the said territory. It is also provided that jurisdiction to enforce the laws of the United States in the Cherokee outlet shall not be conferred upon the Supreme and District courts of the Territory of Oklahoma. The reading of the report occupied an hour and a half. After quite a long discussion Mr. Struble demanded the previous question upon the report, which was ordered and the report was adopted.

The bill appropriating $333,500 to provide necessary vaults and safeguards for the security of the public money in the custody of the United States treasurer, was passed.

Mr. Morrill moved that the rules be suspended and the bill passed to pension prisoners of war. Messrs. Tarsney and Cummings opposed the bill, and Messrs. Hopkins, Boothman, Cutcheon, Kennedy, Morse and Morrill spoke in its favor.

The motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill was then put and defeated—yeas 143, nays 78; not the necessary two-thirds.

PAN-AMERICAN CONGRESS.

It Has Closed its Sessions—The Final Proceedings.

The Pan-American congress has closed its session. At 11 o'clock on April 19, the delegates met and approved the minutes of Friday's meeting and listened to the closing address of Secretary Blaine.

At 12 o'clock the delegates called in a body upon President Harrison, and returning immediately afterward to their hall the conference was formally adjourned.

At Friday's session the report of the committee on general welfare, recommending the nations of Europe to adopt the policy of arbitration, was under discussion. As the discussion progressed, differences were developed which did fair to block the way to a conclusion unless much time should be consumed and unless some concessions should be made. Mr. Blaine, who had been absent at a Cabinet meeting, came into the conference room late in the afternoon, when the controversy seemed far from a conclusion. He asked a recess, and then invited the committee on general welfare to join him in considering the matter.

Recess was had and Mr. Blaine and the committee retired. They were gone scarcely half an hour. Upon returning Mr. Blaine asked Vice President Seegarra to preside, and then from the latter's place at the long table Mr. Blaine said:

Mr. President, I am very happy to announce that any vital difference upon any question connected with the scheme of arbitration which two hours ago might have been feared, is, I hope, entirely removed and the resolutions of the honorable gentleman, Mr. Quintana, have been simply changed from being in perpetuity to run at even dates with the treaty of arbitration. So they stand and fall together. They are born together, and if they die they will die together; but we shall hope both their lives will be perpetual. I shall read the first, and as I read one the gentleman opposite me (Mr. Cruz), the distinguished gentleman from Guatamela, will read the Spanish text:

1—That the principle of conquest shall not, during the continuance of a treaty of arbitration, be recognized as admissible under American public law.

2—That all cessions of territory made during the continuance of the treaty of arbitration shall be void if made under threats of war or the presence of an armed force.

3—Any nation from which such cessions shall be exacted may demand that the validity of the cessions made shall be submitted to arbitration.

4—Any renunciation of the right of arbitration made under the conditions contained in the second section shall be null and void.

Those conditions are under threats of war or the presence of armed force.

If I may now make a short cut, parliamentarily, I shall, with the concurrence of my honorable and highly valued friend on the right, Mr. Quintono, move that these be accepted as a substitute for the first, second, third and fourth resolutions of the original text. I shall move, therefore, as I hope with the entire unanimity of the whole conference—that these written clauses be substituted for those originally reported from the committee.

The Blaine substitute was put and carried with acclamation and cheers, save from Chili, which did not vote.

The only business of the conference was this ended. Its work was done.

Dr. Martinez Silva, of Colombia, had, however, a proposition to present. Its provisions are that a Latin-American library shall be founded in the city of Washington, with contributions from the nations represented; that it shall be known as the Columbus library; that in it shall be placed histories of the nations represented in the Congress, also their geographies, maps and official documents; that the library shall be located by the United States in Washington, and that it shall be dedicated upon the anniversary of the centennial of the discovery of America by Columbus.

These propositions were embodied in a motion which prevailed without dissent.

Delegate Mendonca, of Brazil, then moved that the Latin nations in the conference prepare a tablet upon which should be inscribed in each language spoken in the conference, the dates of opening and closing, and the name of the president of the conference. This should be placed in the room in the State department, where the delegates were first convened. Adopted.

Resolutions of thanks to Mr. Blaine and to the United States for courtesies and hospitality were moved by Mr. Romero, of Mexico, and were enthusiastically adopted by the southern delegates.

Before the supplementary part of the committee on General Welfare, which led to the discussion referred to above, was taken up the conference had adopted another supplementary report from the same committee, expressing the wish that all controversies between the republics of America and the nations of Europe may be settled by arbitration.

The report of the committee on International Law was submitted and adopted. The body recommends the adoption of the following principles of American international law:

1. Foreigners are entitled to enjoy all the civil rights enjoyed by natives; and they shall be accorded all the benefits of said rights in all that is essential, as well as in the form or procedure and the legal remedies incident thereto absolutely in like manner as said natives.

2. A nation has not per recognizos in favor of foreigners any other obligation or responsibilities than those which are in favor of the natives as established in like cases by the constitution and the laws.

3. Rivers which separate several states or which traverse their territory shall be open to the free navigation of the merchant marine or ships of war of the riparian nations.

4. This declaration shall not affect the jurisdiction nor the sovereignty of any of the riparian nations, either in times of peace or war.

On the question of adopting this report the United States and Nicaragua voted no.

Rivers and Harbors.

The House committee on Rivers and Harbors on April 17 completed the river and harbor appropriation bill. The total appropriation is a little over $20,000,000. Toledo gets $200,000

Kincaid Out on Bail.

Charles E. Kincaid, who is charged with the murder of ex-Representative Taulbee, was on April 21 admitted to bail in the sum of $20,000.

WORLD'S FAIR BILL.

Passed by the Senate—The Amendments Made There.

The Senate has passed the World's Fair bill and it now only remains for the President to sign it, and by proclamation, make the announcement to the world when he is satisfied that the financial backing justifies such a movement.

Mr. Gorman offered an amendment to strike out the provision for a naval review, and insert in lieu of it an appropriation of $500,000 for a memorial building in Washington as a repository of the antiquities of the western hemisphere. Rejected.

Mr. Hoar moved to amend by striking out the provision as to the Columbus statue.

After discussion Mr. Hoar's amendment to strike out the provision as to the statue of Columbus was agreed to, and the remainder of the amendment (for a naval review) was agreed to—yeas 28, nays 27. follows:

The section as adopted reads:

Section 8. That the President is hereby empowered and directed to hold a naval review in New York harbor in April, 1893, and to extend to foreign nations an invitation to send ships of war to join the United States navy in rendezvous at Hampton Roads and proceed thence to said review.

Mr. Blair moved to add to the first section a provision that no intoxicating liquors, wines or beer shall be sold or used as a beverage within the limits of the exposition grounds, and made a short speech in support of it.

Mr. Butler thought that was a matter which might safely be left to the people of Chicago, and therefore he moved to lay the amendment on the table. Motion agreed to—yeas 33, nays 15. The negative vote was by Messrs. Blackburn, Blair, Chandler, Dawes, Dixon, Dolph, George, Hampton, Hoar, Mitchell, Moody, Platt, Plumb and Sanders.

The bill (which had been under consideration as in committee of the whole) was then reported to the Senate; and a vote was again taken by yeas and nays on the amendment for a naval review.

The vote resulted: Yeas 27, nays 25—so the provision remains in the bill. The bill was passed, yeas 43, nays 13. The negative votes were by Senators Barbour, Berry, Blackburn, Cockrell, Coke, George Hampton, Morgan, Pugh, Reagan, Vance, Vest and Walthall.

A committee of conference on the disagreeing votes was asked, and Messrs. Hawley, Farwell and Vance were appointed conferees on the part of the Senate.

BUILDING POSTOFFICES.

Blount's Bill to be Reported Favorably to the House.

The House committee on Postoffices and Postroads has authorized Representative Chandler, of Massachusetts, to report to the House, in a modified form, the Blount bill to provide for the erection of postoffice buildings. As amended, it authorizes the postmaster general, to construct, at his discretion, buildings at any place at which the gross receipts of the postoffice for two years or more preceding shall have exceeded $3,000, or in county seats $2,500 each year. The cost of such buildings shall not exceed $25,000 in any case.

Where the receipts do not exceed $2,500 the cost of the building is to be limited to $20,000; and receipts to the amount of $2,000 entitles a place to a building not exceeding $15,000 in cost.

The postmaster general is authorized to receive donations of ground as sites for the erection of such buildings, and when necessary, to purchase ground at a price not to exceed $5,000. The bill appropriates for the first year $91, $2,000,000. There are nearly 2,000 places in the country that will be affected by the passage of this bill.

United States Courts.

The bill passed by the House to define and regulate the jurisdiction of the courts of the United States withdraws all original jurisdiction now vested in the circuit courts of the United States, and vests the same exclusively in the district courts of the United States; and also provides that the circuit courts of the United States shall exercise such jurisdiction by writ of error and appeal, as they have and exercise under existing laws.

The Circuit court is made an appellate court exclusively, except that it has the power to issue writs of reundries. The Circuit courts shall consist of the present circuit judge and two others to be appointed in each circuit by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

The Circuit courts shall be courts of record.

The terms of the Circuit court are to be held at the following places:

First circuit, Boston; 2nd circuit, New York; 3rd circuit, Philadelphia; 4th circuit, Richmond, Va.; 5th circuit, New Orleans; 6th circuit, Cincinnati; 7th circuit, Chicago; 8th circuit, St. Louis; 9th circuit, San Francisco.

The Morrill Bill.

Representative Martin, of Indiana, on behalf of the minority of the committee on Invalid Pensions, has submitted a report on the Morrill service pension bill. The report criticizes the age qualifications of the bill as being further responsive to public demand nor in compliance with the requests of the veterans. It seems that the bill is simply the outgrowth of some real or supposed necessity to give what is not asked by the survivors of the war, instead of granting them what they have asked for and expect. The minority urges that the bill be amended to conform to the popular wishes of the Union veterans; that the age qualification be eliminated, and the limit of service be made not to exceed 60 days.

The Action of the Republican Caucus on Silver.

The caucus of Republican members of the House on the silver question on the 21st led to a wide discussion of the matter. The position taken by a majority of the House caucus committee was explained by Mr. Conger, of Iowa, and that of the minority by Mr. Perkins, of Kansas. Finally, after a long discussion, on motion of Mr. Perkins, the following conference committee of the minority, the whole matter was recommitted to the House caucus committee, with instructions to report to another caucus of the Republicans of the House on Wednesday night, and at 11:30 the caucus adjourned.

Cameron's Pension Bill.

Senator Cameron has introduced a service pension bill which has been approved by the Pennsylvania Service Pension association. It provides that all persons who served in the late war shall receive a service pension of $8 a month, and in addition a per diem pension of 1 cent a day for every day's service. Widows of these persons shall be entitled to a pension of $12 a month.

In Memory of Grant.

Representative McKinley, of Ohio, has presented, in the House, a resolution providing that a statue in marble, with a proper pedestal, of the late Gen. Ulysses S. Grant, tendered by the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, shall be received and erected in Statuary hall, in the United States Capitol.

GENERAL NEWS.

BI-METALLISM.

England Refuses to Hold a Conference on the Subject.

During the debate in the House of Commons on April 18, on the motion of Mr. Samuel Smith in favor of a conference on bi-metallism, which was finally rejected by the house, Sir William Vernon Harcourt announced that Mr. Gladstone did not approve of the motion.

Mr. Belfour said that though he adhered to the principle of bi-metalism he thought it would be best for the government to go in advance of the educated commercial opinion of the country and try to force upon the nation a currency in which commercial men did not thoroughly believe.

Mr. Goshen, chancellor of the exchequer, said he was inclined to favor bi-metalism, provided all countries would permanently maintain it under an international agreement. The majority by which the motion was rejected included all the leading members of both parties.

Bismarck to Enter the Reichstag.

The *Hamburger Nachrichten* denies that the recent articles against Chancellor Von Caprivi were instigated by Prince Bismarck. At the same time it announces that the Prince will not relinquish his connection with the press, and that he intends soon to appear in the Upper House of the Landtag, and will also accept a candidature for the Reichstag.

Oregon Republicans.

The Republican state convention met in Portland, Oregon, on April 16 and re-nominated Binger Hermann for Congress. D. P. Thompson, of Portland, was nominated for governor. The platform favors the adoption of the Australian ballot system, endorses the McKinley tariff bill and declares in favor of free and unlimited coinage of silver. The course of Speaker Reed of the House of Representatives is endorsed.

LABOR TROUBLES.

Trades Calculating on a General Strike in May.

The men at the north station of the Chicago Gaslight and Coke company, to the number of about forty, went out on strike on April 16. It is said that an effort was being made to organize all employes of gas works in the city. Two of the employes of the north station who were most prominent in the movement were discharged, and the other men immediately struck. The men have been dissatisfied for some time.

In 1886 they were working twelve hours a day. They organized and sent a committee to President Forestall, who immediately conceded eight hours with a reduction of 25 per cent in wages. These rates and hours were maintained until the death of Mr. Forestall. When President C. T. Yerkes assumed control the men assert they were put back to twelve hours and another cut made in wages.

The strikers are endeavoring to induce the employes of other gas works in the city to join them, and with fair prospects of success.

It requires skilled workmen to operate the machinery at the gas works, and unless a settlement is speedily made the city may be left in darkness so far as the gas supply is concerned.

Will Strike May 1.

Several hundred men employed in Denny Brothers' packing house at the Chicago Stock Yards have sent a communication to the manager of the establishment asking for their deposit money. The demand amounts to a notification that the men intend to strike the 1st of May. There is considerable uneasiness in all the houses in Packingtown over the eight-hour agitation. Neither the workmen nor the employers are a unit on the matter.

Portland's Lockout.

It is estimated there are now 1,500 carpenters, bricklayers and other trademen out of employment in Portland, Ogeby reason of the lockout by the Builders' union of carpenteuters. They say the non-union men cannot be had, and they propose to stand firm.

THE CHICAGO STRIKE.

The Situation Growing Very Serious—Violence.

It is announced that the Chicago gasfitters have decided to go out Monday next. Their demands are for an eight hour day and an increase of pay from $3.25 to $3 50 a day.

The sash, door and blind men are making rapid progress toward perfecting a large and powerful organization. They expect to be in a position to demand eight hours by the first of May.

Cases of intimidation and violence by the striking carpenters are becoming more numerous. The patrol wagons were kept busy Monday afternoon in several sections, answering calls. Only two serious rows occurred, however, and few arrests were made.

At the Brotherhood base ball grounds about 500 strikers assembled and attempted to intimidate the non-union workmen. An alarm was turned in and a platoon of police came to the scene, when the strikers withdrew.

At one or two other places non-union men at work were stoned. At a building on the northwest section of the city a delegation of strikers ordered several non-union carpenters to quit, but were met with refusal. The strikers armed themselves with sticks and bricks and attacked the men.

The owner of the building called the patrol wagon, but before it arrived the strikers had knocked Foreman Hansen down and severely beat him with a scantling. The strikers were placed under arrest.

A crowd of strikers attacked George and William Johnson, who were at work on a new building at 319 Armitage avenue. both men received slight scalp wounds. The North avenue patrol was called, but the strikers had fled.

Striking Carpenters Assault the Non-Union Men.

Some non-union carpenters were put to work on Wallace street, near Fifty-Third, on April 22. The strikers pickets reported the fact, and a committee of union men were sent to persuade them to quit work.

Idle carpenters to the number of about 100 joined the committee, and when arguments failed to induce the non-unionists to quit, the crowd began jeering them, and a riot followed.

Police Sergeant Begley interfered, when he was set upon and beaten by the strikers. An alarm was sent to the nearest police station and a detachment of police was sent out and succeeded in arresting about 50 of the rioters.

The rest escaped, but the police are hunting for them. Sergeant Begley was taken to his home and medical assistance summoned. The non-union men in the meantime dropped their tools and fled.

THE MARTYR PRESIDENT.

The Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of His Death Commemorated.

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the death of Abrahim Lincoln was most appropriately celebrated in Springfield, Ill., his old home, under the auspices of the Lincoln Memorial league, on April 15. Though the weather was cold and disagreeable, there were thousands of strangers in the city. Two large excursions came from St. Louis, one of the G. A. R and one of the Turnverein. The G. A. R. was accompanied by the famous Arsenal band. The city was liberally decorated with flags and somber habiliments of mourning.

There was a large procession of G. A. R., civic and military organizations, Turners and Fire department to the National Lincoln monument, where the memorial exercises were held. Maj. James A. Connolly delivered address of welcome and Judge James H Matheny, of this city, spoke in behalf of the Grand Army, and Hargermuench, of St. Louis, for the Turners. The monument and sarcophagus were profusely decorated, and there were elegant floral designs from life states of Wisconsin, Minnesota and Michigan.

President Harrison and other prominent men sent letters of regret of their inability to be present.

Southern Iron Industries Sold at Sheriff's Sale.

The sheriff sold, at Huntsville, Ala., on April 21, three blast furnaces and the large tracts of mineral land and mineral rights in Walker, Winston, Fayette and Marion counties, Ala., consisting of about 70,000 acres which were bought by Napoleon Hill, of Memphis, Tenn., for $350,000; also over 5,000 acres of mineral land and mineral rights and coking coal lands in Walker and Jefferson counties, which were bought by J. C. Neely, of Memphis, Tenn., for $115,000.

These properties were sold to satisfy a mortgage of the Central Trust company, of New York, made for $140,000 of bonds of the Sheffield & Birmingham Coal, Iron and Railway company, of which $1,398,000, with coupons attached, remain unpaid. The railway part of the property, consisting of the Birmingham & Sheffield railway, was not included in the sale, having been separated from the other properties of the company, not being subject to debts.

The Threatened Uprising of Sioux a Bluff by Big Foot.

The belligerent attitude of the Cheyenne Sioux, under Chief Big Foot, is thought by the military authorities of the department of Dakota to be a bluff by Big Foot, to make himself solid with his tribe.

Gen. Ruger says that he does not anticipate any serious trouble. The reason that he has ordered a detachment to go into camp at a point eight miles from the junction of the Cheyenne and Belleforche rivers is that there is a long stretch of country there between Forts Sully and Meade, and he thought it advisable to have troops stationed at some point between the two forts to assist the Indian agent in maintaining order during the influx of emigration.

The Indians have one year from the date when the reservation was opened in which to select land in severalty. In making these selections they may come in contact with settlers, and for this reason it has been thought advisable to increase the troops.

On Mitchell's Bond.

Ex President Rutherford B. Hayes, accompanied by his nephews, Gen. John G. Mitchell and Rutherford M. Platt, visited the office of the United States circuit court at Philadelphia, on April 17, and entered before Commissioner Bell, Mr. Mitchell's bond for the faithful performance of his duties as the new pension agent for the state of Ohio. The bond was for $150,000, with the ex-President and Mr. Platt as sureties. It was executed there, the parties interested being present attending the celebration of the anniversary of the